



Wisconsin Trout

Wisconsin Trout Unlimited

Winter 1994

RETURN:
Trout Unlimited
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Fort McCoy operations imperil La Crosse River

Wisconsin's only military camp - Fort McCoy in western Wisconsin - is an important training base for the United States Army and the National Guard. The military camp covers well over 90 square miles in Monroe County east and north of Sparta.

Running through Fort McCoy are the upper headwaters of the La Crosse River and several tributaries. Many wetland complexes also exist in that area.

And all have been "under attack" by military maneuvers in Fort McCoy.

For many years, the Department of the Army (DOA) has operated training maneuvers at Fort McCoy that include field instruction in use of ordnance. Mortar firing and other discharge of offensive weapons have occurred on McCoy's lands.

Some of the most devastating impacts have occurred along the basin of the La Crosse River in what is known as the North Impact Area (NIA). As shown by the pictures associated with this article, many areas along the La Crosse River headwaters area have taken on the appearance of a moonscape.

The artillery firing has resulted in streambank erosion, destruction of the riparian zone and unintended dispersal of live-but-unexploded rounds into the river and along its banks.

For several years, citizens in the Sparta area have protested the ill-advised discharge of ordnance into the NIA because of the deleterious impacts it had on the La Crosse River and its tributaries and wetlands. Spurred on by twin brothers Dick and Bob Smith, citizens have signed petitions asking the Fort to revise its artillery operations to avoid continued abuse of the La Crosse River headwaters area.

In spring of 1993, officials from Wisconsin's Department of Natural Resources and the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) met with staff of Fort McCoy to review operations and observe the damage that had been done to the La Crosse River system.

Subsequent to the initial inspection, a meeting was held June 15, 1993, between the DNR, Fort McCoy representatives and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to discuss the NIA and other water quality concerns. From that meeting, Fort McCoy was to prepare meeting minutes that included action items proposed to address identified concerns.

The DNR had thought that the Fort would propose for the NIA such remediation measures as: 1) establishing a 150-meter buffer zone away from the La Crosse River; 2) ordering all new targets to be located at least 500 meters from the La Crosse River; 3) marking or painting old targets near waterways to alert artillery/tank units that they are not active targets; and 4) developing and implementing a monitoring plan to demonstrate how future bombing and shelling could avoid waterways and wetlands.

However, a letter from the DNR to

Mr. Alan L. Balliett, Directorate of Engineering at Fort McCoy, indicated that the DNR was not pleased with the Fort's proposals.

In the letter, the DNR stated that they felt that the Fort's proposed action items were too vague to determine effectiveness, and that there were no schedules for implementation of proposed changes. Thus, stated the DNR, there was no way of determining if increased protection to the river had been enacted or would be enacted in the future.

The DNR then requested in its letter (dated Sept. 7, 1993) to Fort McCoy to provide a detailed La Crosse River protection plan for the NIA, with time schedules for full implementation in 1994, that includes:

1. A description and map of the NIA, with the map showing all waterways and wetlands contained therein and all bombing, artillery or other targets.

2. A plan to monitor potential adverse water quality effects to the La Crosse River caused by bombing/shelling, including erosion, (re) suspension of sediments and discharge of any chemical pollutants potentially associated with ordnance deposition into receiving waters. Evidence of water quality degradation should be met with appropriate remediation.

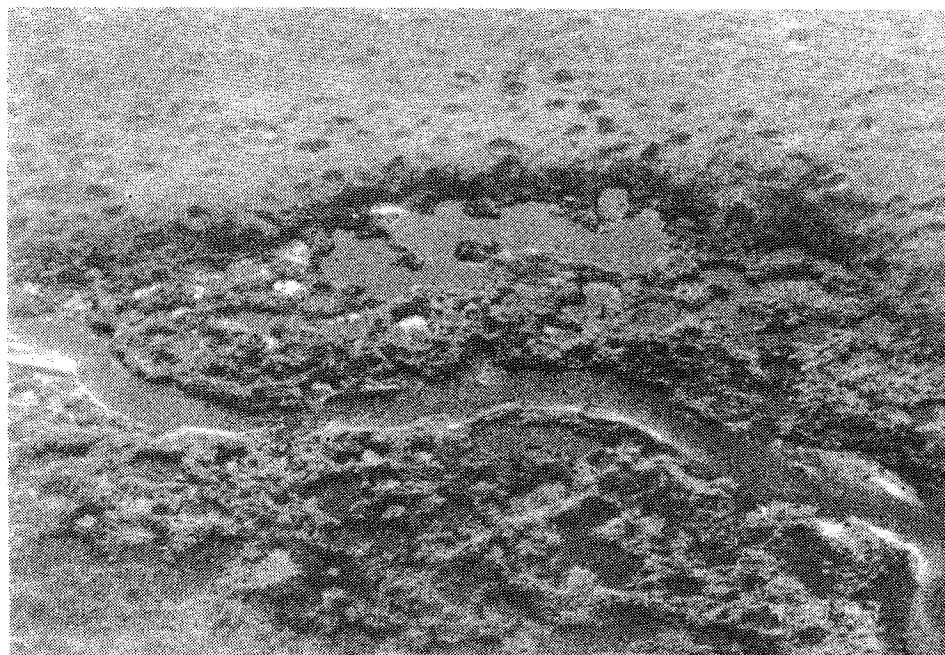
3. Description of measures proposed to insure any new targets installed after July 1, 1993, be located at least 500 meters from the river and that a no-fire zone be established at least 150 meters on either side of the La Crosse River (creating a 300 meter buffer zone). Similar protection for other waterways and wetlands in the NIA should be developed in consultation with the DNR.

4. Description of how to monitor the effectiveness of target (re)location and no-fire zone establishment along the river and other waterways and wetlands, including options of aerial surveillance and annual photographs for easy comparison.

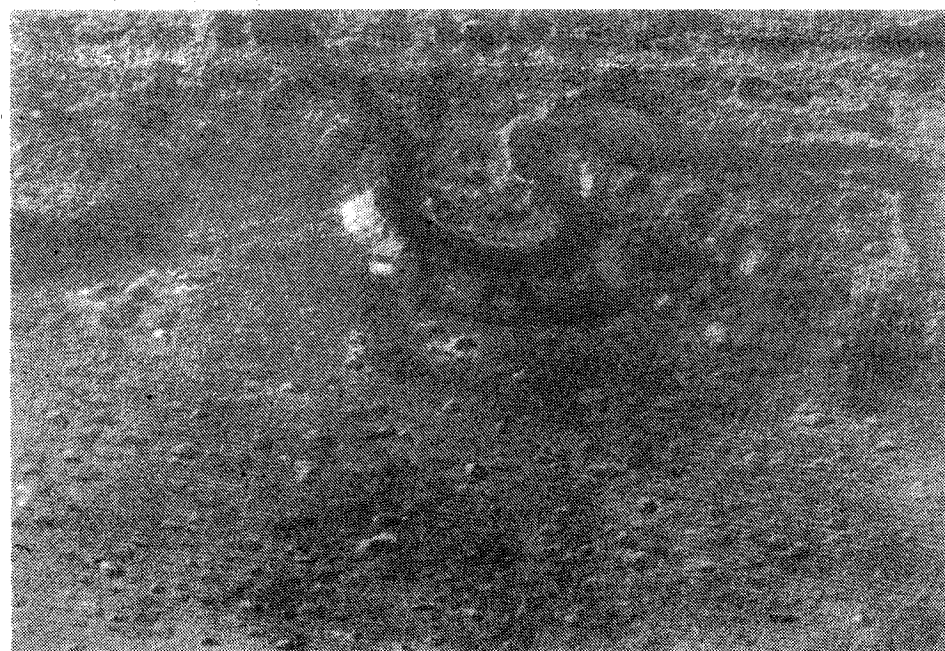
As a result of the DNR's September 7, 1993, letter to Fort McCoy, a follow-up meeting was planned for December, 1993, or January, 1994. Also, joint fish surveys on the La Crosse River were conducted by DNR fishery personnel and biologists from Fort McCoy during autumn of 1993, and the Fort has initiated a water quality monitoring program on the river.

Wisconsin River will try to keep its readership abreast of the actions or inactions that occur in the future regarding this issue. The upper La Crosse River was formerly a sensational trout fishery, and its waters produced mayfly hatches that sometimes defied imagination.

And while the defense of our nation and preparation of those who carry out that defense are of utmost importance, we need not sit back and wink at unnecessary environmental destruction to natural resources that exist on military bases. Both can exist if proper planning is carried out.



Scenes of Upper La Crosse River in the North Impact Zone. Upper photo shows massive evidence of shelling along the river's banks. Lower photo shows severely eroded bank along a river oxbow.



Trout regulation review delayed

Scheduled plans to review and modify the inland trout fishing regulations in time for the 1995 trout fishing season have been delayed.

Department of Natural Resources trout specialist Larry Claggett stated that complaints from the Trout Study Committee of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress and the DNR's Bureau of Law Enforcement that they had not had sufficient input into the process of reviewing the current regulatory setup forced the DNR to re-schedule the timetable for regulation review and overhaul.

As now planned, the DNR will be seeking input from the aforementioned groups and other interest groups such as Trout Unlimited as far as proposed changes in regulations are concerned. Proposed changes will be sent out to public hearing in 1995, and regulatory revisions will first become effective with the 1996 inland trout fishing season.

The only changes that will take place for the 1994 season are changes required to correct mistakes that occurred in the Wisconsin Trout Fishing Regulations pamphlet.

Wisconsin T.U. Council/Chapter Directory

Chairman: Forrest Grulke, 11 Schmidt Ave., #6, Rothschild, WI 54474 (715) 843-4295 (O), (715) 355-7772 (H).

Vice-Chairman: Tom Flesch, 918 Clover Lane, DeForest, WI 53532 (608) 846-2211 (H)

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Monterey Trail, De Pere, WI 54115 (414) 336-4983 (H)

Water Resources: John Crane, N2629 Pleasant Park Lane, Waupaca, WI 54981 (715) 258-9173 (H)

Youth/Education: Dale Lange, N3167 Right-of-Way Rd., Peshtigo, WI 54157 (715) 582-4172 (H)

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Aldo Leopold Chapter (#375): Clint Byrnes, 921 S. Spring St., Beaver Dam, WI 53916 (414) 885-5335

Antigo Chapter (#313): Scott Henricks, 213 Mary St., Antigo, WI 54409 (715) 623-3867

Blackhawk Chapter (#390): Terry Vaughn, 4710 Creek Rd., Beloit, WI 53511 (608) 362-4295

Central Wisconsin Chapter: Dave

Johnson, 143 Water St., #108, Berlin, WI 54923 (414) 361-3046 (H)

Coulee Region Chapter (#278): Bob Miller, N3353 U.S. Highway 16, La Crosse, WI 54601 (608) 784-2630 (H)

Fox Valley Chapter (#193): Tom Beyer, 1610 S. Kernan, Appleton, WI 54915 (414) 734-3365

Frank Hornberg Chapter (#624): Jeffrey Dimick, 906 W. Walkush Rd., Stevens Point, WI 54481; (715) 341-6647 (H)

Green Bay Chapter (#083): Janet Smith, 3358 Nautical Ave., Green Bay, WI 54311 (414) 433-3803 (O); (414) 468-6154 (H)

Harry Nohr Chapter (#257): Curt Prideaux, 138 S. Iowa, Dodgeville, WI 53533 (608) 935-5268

Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter (#168): Andy Lamberson, 2104 Chestnut Dr., Hudson, WI 54016 (715) 386-7568 (H)

Lakeshore Chapter (#423): Jeff Preiss, 15915 CTH "C", Valders, WI 54245 (414) 773-2693 (H)

Marinette County Chapter (#422): Dale Lange (Same as "Youth/Education")

Northwoods Chapter (#256): Dave

Newhouse, P.O. Box 1293, Rhinelander, WI 54501 (715) 362-5263 (H)

Oconto River Watershed Chapter (#385): Dave Brunner, 5473 Cardinal Rd., Gillett, WI 54124 (414) 855-6669 (H)

Ojibseau Chapter (#255): John Welter, 204 E. Grand Ave., P.O. Box 358, Eau Claire, WI 54702 (715) 832-3494 (O); (715) 832-7028 (H)

Shaw-Paca Chapter (#381): Bill Weatherwax, N12090 CTH "DD", Clintonville, WI 54929 (715) 823-5341 (H)

Southeastern WI Chapter (#078): Jon P. Christiansen, 237 Aster Lane, Mequon, WI 53092 (414) 241-5220 (H)

Southern WI Chapter (#061): David Ogletree, 2661 Milwaukee St., Madison, WI 53704 (608) 246-4227 (H)

Wild Rivers Chapter (#415): Paul Gilbert, RR 1, Box 24, Cable, WI 54821 (715) 798-3218 (H)

Wisconsin River Valley Chapter (#395): Herb Hintze, 629 Hamilton St., Wausau, WI 54401 (715) 842-1365 (H)

Wolf River Chapter (#050): Herb Buettner, 4255 Buettner Drive, White Lake, WI 54491 (715) 882-8612 (H)

Exxon revives zinc, copper mine plan

In mid-September, 1993, Exxon Coal and Mineral Company announced that it had revived plans to open an underground mine near Crandon (Forest County) for extraction of copper and zinc ore. The company had postponed the project in 1986 after the ore body discovery had first been announced in 1975.

Exxon has said that it found a new partner for the project that was shelved due to an unfavorable outlook for future metal prices. The new partner is Rio Algom, Ltd., a mining company headquartered in Toronto, Canada. That company has interests in copper,

potash, uranium and coal mines. Permitting for the proposed mine, which is located near the headwaters of the famous Wolf River and southwest of Crandon, could take from three to five years.

Conservation and environmental groups have expressed concerns in the past that the mine as proposed would have negative impacts to the groundwater regime, the surface water flow of tributaries to the Wolf River and to the Wolf itself. The Mole Lake band of the Chippewa Indian Nation has expressed fears that mine tailing waste could hurt their traditional wild rice beds.

Changing address? Do it right!

If you are changing your address and still want to continue receiving your magazines, newspapers and chapter newsletters from TROUT UNLIMITED, you will need to communicate to T.U. about the changes.

There are some "do's" and "don't's" in this matter. The biggest "don't" is this: **Don't send changes of address to the State Council!!** What you must do is send that change of address notice to:

Att'n: Membership Dept.

Trout Unlimited

1500 Wilson Blvd.

Arlington, VA 22209

When you send that change to T.U. National, not to State Council, be sure that you include with your name and address your T.U. identification number. That is the eight-digit computer number on the upper left-hand corner of your address label that is on your T.U. membership card and/or your chapter and State Council newsletters.

Also...if you are moving to a diffe-

rent city and wish to become a member of the chapter closest to your new home, you should make note to National T.U. that you wish to change chapters.

You should identify both the chapter from which you are moving and the chapter into which you're transferring by identifying both by name and by chapter I.D. number. See the chapter directory on page 2 for that information.

As an example, if you are moving from Madison to Eau Claire and wish to change chapters, you inform T.U. National of your new address (include your T.U. member I.D. number!) and then note that you wish to be transferred from the **Southern Wisconsin Chapter (#061)** to the **Ojibseau Chapter (#255)**.

Any questions, call Mitch Bent at (414) 336-4983. But...do not send address changes to him. They will not be accepted!!

Wisconsin T.U. Chapter meeting times, locations

Aldo Leopold: When needed or called; at Beaver Dam Conservation Club, CTH "G", Beaver Dam.

Antigo: Not listed.

Blackhawk: Third Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at UW-Rock County Campus (South Building).

Central Wisconsin: Board meetings at Tilly's in Wautoma on second Monday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

Coulee Region: Not given.

Fox Valley: Third Thursday of the month, 7:30 p.m., at The Forester Club, Spencer St., Appleton.

Frank Hornberg Chapter: Second Thursday of the month, 7:00 p.m. at Shooter's Supper Club, Hwys. 51 & 54, Plover.

Green Bay: First Thursday of September, October, November, January, February, March and April at Maricque's, 1517 University Ave., Green Bay at 7:30 p.m. May picnic/meeting at the Brown County Reforestation Camp. December Christmas/awards dinner at site to be determined. No chapter meetings June-Aug.

Kiap-TU-Wish: First Wednesday of the month at The Hudson House in Hudson. Dinner at 6:3 p.m.; meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Lakeshore: Second Monday of the month, 7:30 p.m. at The Club Bil-Mar, Old Hwy. 141, Manitowoc.

Marinette County: First Tuesday

of the month, 7:00 p.m., at The Dome, 751 University Drive, Marinette.

Harry Nohr: Not given.

Northwoods: Second Thursday of the month, 7:30 p.m., at Valley First National Bank (Community Room), Stevens at Davenport Streets, Rhinelander.

Oconto River Watershed: First Wednesday of the month, 7:45 p.m., at the Lone Oak Gun Club, Hwy. 32 North, Gillett.

Ojibseau: Second Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m., at the Eau Claire Rod & Gun Club, Eau Claire.

Shaw-Paca: Third Thursday of the month, 8:00 p.m., at the Corner Bar, County "M", in Pella (Shawano County).

Southeastern Wisconsin: Fourth Tuesday of the month. Dinner at 6:00 p.m., meeting at 7:30 p.m. At the Bavarian Wursthau, 8310 Appleton Ave., Milwaukee.

Southern Wisconsin: Second Tuesday of the month, dinner at 6:00 p.m., meeting at 7:00 p.m. At the Maple Tree Restaurant, McFarland.

Wild Rivers: Not given.

Wisconsin River Valley: Not given.

Wolf River: At various times. Call Herb Buettner (715-882-8612) for information.

WISCONSIN TROUT

is the official publication of the Wisconsin Council of Trout Unlimited. Issues are distributed to all members of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited chapters. Publication and distribution dates are the first weeks of January, April, July and October. Deadlines for articles and advertisements are the 10th of December, March, June and September, respectively. Advertising rate sheet available upon request. Contributions and letters-to-the-editor are welcomed and encouraged. Submit articles and returnable photos or slides (color or black-and-white) to editor for consideration. **Send all change of address notices to: TROUT UNLIMITED, 1500 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22209. Include your T.U. identification number with all notices of address change.**

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Letters to the Editor

Change trout season format

Editor, Wisconsin Trout:

As we enter the decision-making stage regarding the next generation of any "early trout season" in Wisconsin, and as we look ahead to assessing and changing the "new" state trout fishing regulations in 1995, I'm struck by how divisive these issues can become for Wisconsin TU'ers.

It's no surprise that the organization has great difficulty in reaching a consensus position on such matters, given the range of experiences and opinions of our members. I was delighted when the state Council was able to reach agreement that the existing "early season" put disproportionate pressure on southwestern Wisconsin's trout resources, while recognizing that important coldwater fisheries in our state are of statewide significance and greater than just local interest.

It's unclear where we are at present regarding early season changes. I do know that Department of Natural Resources fish managers have met, and that they've had some interaction with the Trout Study committee of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress. Some of their proposals for a revamped early season will not only reduce the number of waters available for early season angling, but will also increase the pressure on those southwestern Wisconsin streams that would be open for that season.

Perhaps it's time to carefully consider a proposal I've heard advanced by a number of trout anglers, one that would remedy this on-going conflict. The main elements are as follows:

1) **Scrap the early season as we know it and end this controversy.** Fish are concentrated and vulnerable during January and February, and can be injured by poor handling even when caught and released. A winter rest period can't be anything but good for the fishery.

2) **Save a lot of Wisconsin trout anglers from going crazy during the long winter by opening up the general trout season earlier.** This could be in mid-March or the beginning of April, and could vary in the northern and southern parts of the state as dictated by biological and resource factors.

Such a proposal would allow trout anglers to capitalize on those late winter-spring days when the weather is warming up and fishing comes to mind. It would allow those who flyfish to par-

take in some of those wonderful early caddis and mayfly hatches which normally precede the existing general season.

I do not believe for a second the claim I occasionally hear that warm-water anglers who must wait for a biologically-based opening date in early May would invade "our" trout streams! Some might, but we could welcome them to our ranks for a month or so, and also benefit from their trout stamp purchases and the resultant additional financial support for the resource.

These proposed changes are made under the supposition that they are biologically sound. If we can be assured that the new year-class of trout has had time to hatch from the spawning redds and that there are not other possible adverse biological impacts, there is no reason, except historical precedent, for not expanding the general trout season to an earlier opening date.

Most of us who get the winter "crazies" could survive until a mid-March opening (even April 1, if that were appropriate). And we could end all the bickering about the early season in a reasonable way.

Of course, the expended season might demand some additional restrictions on harvest to protect and sustain a high-quality fishery. But based on feedback I've gotten, most Wisconsin trout anglers are pleased with the results of the new trout fishing regulations which limit of harvest - and sometimes method of fishing - in order to provide high-quality and trophy recreational trout fishing in our state.

I'm hopeful that this proposal might re-define the present dialogue, and perhaps allow T.U. and other concerned organizations to rally around a change that would enhance fishing opportunities, be responsive to the biological integrity of the fishery and end the fractious debates.

Along with the continued fine-tuning of the 1990 trout angling regulation overhaul, I believe this proposal could greatly benefit trout fishing in the Badger State. I'll look forward to the reactions of my fellow trout anglers. What do you think?

Sincerely,
Steve Born

424 Washburn Place
Madison, WI 53703

Early trout season to continue through 1994

Wisconsin's "early" trout season that begins January 1 in eight southwestern Wisconsin counties (Columbia, Crawford, Grant, Green, Iowa, Lafayette, Richland and Sauk) will continue through 1994.

However, the Department of Natural Resources says that a question on the questionnaire for the April Conservation Congress fish and game hearings will ask attendees whether or not that "early" season should continue.

The DNR fisheries bureau will make recommendations to the Natural Resources Board, the governing body

of the DNR, on the fate of the "early" season based upon the vote at the Congress hearings in mid-1994.

The "early" season has come under increasing criticism over the years, mainly from anglers living in the eight counties where the "early" season exists. Excessive harvest of larger trout and overexploitation of the resource have been the primary complaints about the "early" season, as well as the fact that so few counties are in the "early" season, thus focusing so much pressure on a limited resource.

T.U. National news

New Forest service chief

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced in mid-November, 1993, that Jack Ward Thomas, a world renowned wildlife biologist will take over as the 13th chief of the U.S. Forest Service. Thomas has degrees in wildlife management and wildlife science and a doctorate in forestry.

His professional career spans four decades, and includes numerous national honors and awards, such as the Wildlife Society's "Aldo Leopold Award," and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's "Chuck Yeager Award" and the USDA Superior Service Award. Thomas is also an elected Fellow in the Society of American Foresters.

Early in 1993, President Clinton entrusted Thomas with the task of leading the forest Ecosystem Management Assessment Team. Along with his contribution to the President's Forest Conference, he led two other high-level scientific teams on northwestern ecosystem management.

FERC looks at revising dam policies

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) is responsible for licensing thousands of utility and private dams throughout the nation. FERC's mandate is to assure balanced use of the public's waters and adopt comprehensive plans for watersheds affected by hydropower.

But for decades FERC has been a "rogue" agency. It has violated its public interest responsibilities, and has rejected fish passage, instream flows, recreation and other environmental and public needs.

Now, under the guidance of Chairperson Elizabeth Moler, FERC is trying to change its ways. In September, FERC requested public comment on two major policy changes:

- 1) FERC is asking whether the agency should consider the cumulative impacts of all hydro projects in a river basin, even when project licenses expire at different times; and
- 2) the need for, and design of, a policy dealing with derelict dams.

This change in attitude provides Trout Unlimited with a major opportunity to force needed changes at FERC.

Forest Service insurance coverage

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) has insurance to cover T.U. volunteers who participate in workdays and other joint TU/USFS projects. Chapters should contact their local USFS office to fill out the required form prior to their next project on Forest Service land.

By completing the form (FS 1800) prior to work start up, T.U. volunteers are covered in the field for work injuries not covered by T.U. For the period of work, volunteers are insured as federal employees for the purpose of injury claims.

This application should be standard for every project or activity, however minor, in which T.U. volunteers participate with the USFS. If the USFS does not initiate use of the form at the local level, T.U. chapters should advise the USFS to do so before the start of any project.

For more information, call Don Duff at (801) 524-6491.

"RENEW AMERICA"

"Renew America" is a non-profit organization which documents environmental success stories. Each year,

Renew America publishes an Environmental Success Index (ESI) containing listings of successful conservation and environmental projects and programs.

The purpose of the Index is to promote and share information on successful projects so others can duplicate such achievement. Renew America also recognizes the top projects every year with a national awards program. Trout Unlimited is a member of Renew America's National Environmental Awards Council and participates in the review process for determining award-winning programs.

A number of T.U. chapters have projects and programs listed in the ESI. This is an excellent way to gain national recognition and media attention for successful T.U. projects in your community.

For an information packet on Renew America or application for the ESI, contact: Executive Coordinator, Renew America, 1400 - 16th St., NW, Suite 710, Washington, D.C. 20036. Or, call (202) 232-2252.

TROUT magazine address

The T.U. National Office continues to receive newsletters and other mail from chapters and Councils addressed to the old TROUT magazine address in Bend, Oregon. Please delete any entries on your mailing list containing the name of Tom Pero or the P.O. Box 6225, Bend, Oregon, address.

Newsletters and other mail should be sent to: Editor, TROUT magazine, 800 Follin Lane, SE, Soute 250, Vienna, VA 22180-4959.

Obsolete T.U. stationery

T.U. National is also still seeing correspondence written on T.U. letterhead with the National office's old address (501 Church St., Vienna, VA). To avoid confusion and errors in reply mailing, please discontinue use of materials with this outdated, incorrect address.

If new stationery is needed, call Carol Ruckle, T.U.'s mailroom clerk, at (703) 281-1100 X314, and she will be happy to send some to you and your chapter.

1994 T.U. Annual Meeting

The 1994 T.U. Annual Meeting/National Convention will be held Sept. 21-25 at the Holiday Inn and Grand Tree Inn in Bozeman, Montana. To facilitate more T.U.'ers making it to the meeting, T.U. will publish information on the convention in the Winter, Spring and Summer '94 issues of TROUT magazine.

Submit stories to "Action Line"

If your chapter has a newsworthy project or program to share with TU'ers nationwide, T.U. National encourages you to submit an article to "Action Line", the grassroots reporting section of TROUT magazine.

Please send typed articles, complete with photographs and name and phone number of the contact person, to: Trout Unlimited, Suite 250, 800 Follin Lane, SE, Vienna, VA 22180-4959, ATTN: ACTION LINE - Jennifer Lee.

Membership Services 800 number

The T.U. National office has a new 800 membership number for conservationists who are interested in joining T.U. The number is: 1-800-834-2419. If you have questions or problems regarding membership services, please continue to use the 703-281-1100 phone number.

Outfall over outstanding waters

A plan to protect our cleanest lakes and streams is muddled by misunderstanding

The idea seemed simple enough: take steps to keep wastewater from degrading Wisconsin's cleanest waters. Maintaining top-notch water quality in these lakes, rivers and streams would enhance their value for aquatic life, shore property owners, fishing, recreation and tourism.

However, a wide mix of people with differing expectations see different consequences of naming some lakes and streams as "outstanding resources".

It depends which side of the invisible fence you sit on. Lakeside homeowners who live along "outstanding" waters might want them perpetually protected from every pollution source. Others are concerned that the opportunity for forestry, agriculture, mining, home development or other business ventures might perpetually close along these lakeshores and streambanks.

"Both perceptions are understandable, but neither conclusion is correct," said Chuck Ledin, chief of Planning and Policy Section for the Department of Natural Resources Water Resources Management program.

"Classifying a lake or stream as an 'outstanding resource' won't close its banks to development nor protect it from every source of pollution," he said. "This program is designed to limit one form of pollution - wastewater - that gets piped into the water. On 'outstanding' lakes and streams, we would simply require that any new discharges, piped into the water be as clean as the

water found there naturally is."

Designating certain lakes, streams and rivers as "outstanding resources" is a logical extension of the way clean water has been regulated. Back in 1972, the Clean Water Act only set minimum standards so the nation's waters would at least be safe for fishing and swimming within 20 years. Federal and state pollution laws required permits before liquid wastes in industrial wastewater and municipal sewage could be discharged to these waters.

When the Clean Water Act was revised in 1987, Congress acknowledged that the quality of lakes and streams that had never been subjected to sewage or industrial wastes was likely better than these minimum standards, and those cleaner waters should be protected. Consequently, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) required each state to draft a so-called "anti-degradation" policy to provide more stringent protection for cleaner waters.

Though Wisconsin was the first state in the nation to meet fishable/swimmable goals on all state rivers, the state ran afoul of federal law in 1986, in part because it didn't have a written anti-degradation policy, Ledin said. Eleven proposed permits for paper mill discharges were rejected by the EPA and three environmental groups filed suit to require that the federal government withdraw Wisconsin's authority to issue wastewater discharge permits. To resolve the suit, Governor Tom-

my Thompson, then-DNR Secretary Besadny and the EPA Regional Director signed an agreement that committed the DNR to develop an anti-degradation policy and rules that limit the discharge of water toxicants.

The state's five Wild and Scenic Rivers - the St. Croix, the Namekagon, the Pine, the Pike and the Popple--and the Bois Brule were subsequently nominated as outstanding waters, because they had superb water quality, received no wastewater discharges, and provided excellent opportunities for boating, fishing, swimming and watching wildlife.

The DNR's policy makers, the National Resources Board, believed that these rivers and others should be classified as Outstanding Resource Waters. The Natural Resources Board proposed extending this same protection to about 1,500 Class I streams where trout naturally reproduce. These proposals were taken to public hearing in 1988.

Through this process, DNR staff recognized that some communities already discharged treated sewage into Class I trout streams. These streams were subsequently called "Exceptional Resource Waters" to accommodate future wastewater discharges that could maintain the present water quality. This proposal was approved by the policy board in August, 1988.

At the same time, the Natural Resources Board directed DNR staff to similarly evaluate all of Wisconsin's waters to determine if lakes and other streams should be afforded similar protection from wastewater discharges.

But which streams to protect and how? DNR teams pulled out their maps, pulled out their tote boards and evaluated Wisconsin's 27,723 waters. (Now there's trivia for you - 14,973 lakes and 12,750 rivers and streams.) Like livestock judges at a county fair, they measured and compared attributes that make certain lakes and streams stand out from others: Which ones consistently produce lots of fish? Which test clean of chemicals and other contaminants? Which provide quality boating and canoeing? Which are not at the end of discharge pipes from cities and businesses?

The initial tallies were compiled between December 1988 and May 1989 and were again presented to the Natural Resources Board.

Some lakeshore property owners liked the proposed list, others were concerned that it might limit their future options. It was clear to the Natural Resources Board that there were unresolved issues.

Representatives of land developers, mining, manufacturing, tourism and

forestry interests had concerns about future consequences of naming "so many" waters as outstanding or exceptional. They believed that this special protection could lead to future restrictions on shoreland development along these waters.

The DNR Secretary reiterated that these rules have been in place since 1988 and have not curtailed logging, agriculture, shoreland development or recreation on the 150 streams already designated as outstanding waters and the 1,407 trout streams already designated as exceptional waters.

Board member Stephen Willett of Phillips related that businesses and local officials also expressed concern that this policy would block development. Yet, Willett noted, classifying a water as outstanding would not prohibit discharges. It is acknowledged that community sewage plants and industries would be challenged to discharge treated wastewater as clean as existing lake or river water.

Marinette County officials were concerned because of the large number of county streams that were listed in the "outstanding resource water" category. The county has so many excellent-quality trout streams that it contains 40 percent of the waters designated as outstanding or exceptional. Most of these are Class I trout streams. If the anti-degradation policy did indeed affect future economic growth, one suspects it would be more noticeable in Marinette County.

Given these concerns, Natural Resources Board members reached a decision. They agreed to classify 100 lakes as outstanding resource waters and additional streams as outstanding and exceptional resource waters at their meeting in January, 1993. However, the board also directed DNR staff to conduct a three-year study of the legal, social and economic ramifications of this action.

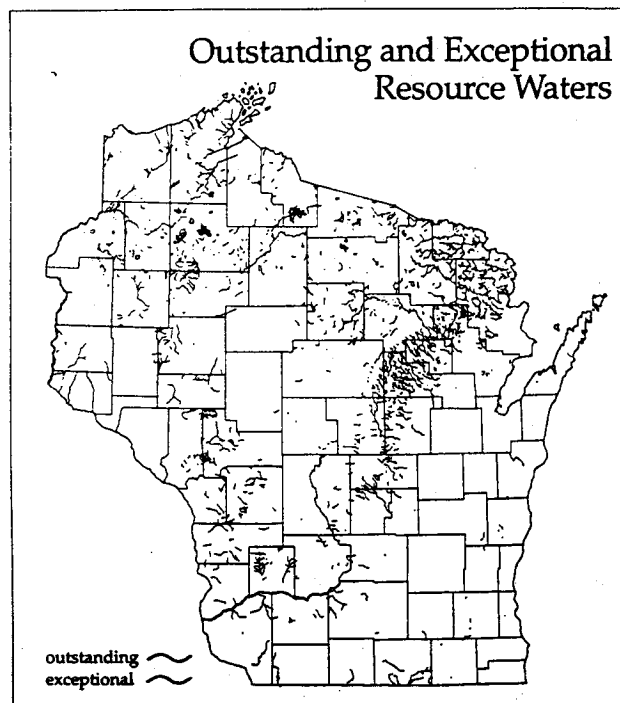
Socioeconomic changes in Marinette County will be assessed, and the same may be done in other counties containing a large number of outstanding and exceptional waters.

The Department of Natural Resources will not recommend additional waters for outstanding and exceptional status before studies are completed and recommendations are presented to the Natural Resources Board in January, 1996. Meanwhile, studies are underway that should give a clearer picture of whether future growth is impaired when we protect our cleanest waters from wastewater discharges.

(Note: This article appeared in the June, 1993, issue of Wisconsin Natural Resources magazine, and is reprinted with permission.)

	OUTSTANDING RESOURCE WATERS		EXCEPTIONAL RESOURCE WATERS
	Lakes	Streams	Streams
Designated in 1988		150	1,407
1993 additions	100	70	125
Total	100	220	1,532
Total numbers of waterbodies in Wisconsin	14,973	12,750	
Percent of total Wisconsin waters designated as outstanding or exceptional	0.7%	1.7%	12%

RIVER MILES RECEIVING OUTSTANDING WATERS PROTECTION IN THE UNITED STATES				
State	Total Miles	Miles Protected	% Protected	Rank
Alabama	40,600	50	0.12	20
Colorado	31,470	4269	13.57	3
Kansas	13,295	647	4.8	7
Maine	31,672	1100	3.47	9
Missouri	21,064	310	1.47	15
Rhode Island	724	47	6.49	6
Alaska	11,310	1833	16.21	2
Delaware	849	187	22.03	1
Indiana	20,000	108	0.54	19
Iowa	18,300	500	2.73	10
Kentucky	18,490	428	2.31	12
Louisiana	14,180	1490	10.51	4
Nebraska	24,000	279	1.16	18
New Hampshire	14,544	267	1.84	13
North Carolina	37,222	870	2.34	11
Ohio	44,898	4000	8.91	5
Pennsylvania	50,000	600	1.20	17
South Carolina	9,900	154	1.56	14
Vermont	5,266	73	1.39	16
Wisconsin	43,750	2075	4.74	8



From the Chairman

By Forrest Grulke

One voice. A united voice. One that serves as the representation of several thousand Trout Unlimited members in Wisconsin. This is what is needed if T.U. is to be effective in meeting its objectives.

When State Council Leadership meets, the objective is to ensure that all chapters are heard on issues, and then to attempt to establish a "consensus" position on an issue. The Council establishes that position on the arguments that are put forth, and it develops a position that it believes will serve the resource well.

When the State Council reaches a consensus on an issue and develops a position statement, that position statement becomes the position of Trout Unlimited in Wisconsin. Chapters and individuals cannot, and should not, publicly present a position, subsequent to State Council setting its position, that is contrary to the Council's position, and that is indicated to be a position of Trout Unlimited, albeit at a chapter level.

When this occurs, it undermines the credibility of the State Council, and it leaves audiences, administrative agencies and the news media confused as to what is the exact position of Wisconsin T.U. on an issue.

All this is said, because, at the January 29, 1994, meeting of the State Council of Trout Unlimited, the Council will begin the process of updating its position regarding the regulations pertaining to inland trout fishing in Wisconsin. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources is now in the process of reviewing those regulations (it is actually a year behind schedule in so doing), and Wisconsin T.U. intends to have a part in the review and updating of these regulations.

It is critical that chapters - ALL CHAPTERS - have representation at this meeting (and subsequent meetings) so that the State Council can get all the input it can get in order to formulate a representative position on the trout angling regulation updating. The discussion will be very comprehensive, and it will also include discussion regarding the early trout season.



Forrest Grulke
Wisconsin State Council
T.U. Chairman

We must begin to discuss these changes NOW, as there will be a wide array of opinions that must be presented and discussed so that a consensus can be achieved.

It is extremely important that Wisconsin T.U. be represented as one united voice. The issues before us offer no room for anything but solidarity.

If you have concerns about trout angling regulations in Wisconsin or about the early season, then make sure that your chapter is represented at this next Council meeting as well as subsequent meetings. I have asked all chapter presidents to begin discussing these issues at chapter meetings so that chapter representatives at the Council meeting are prepared to adequately represent their chapter.

I also encourage chapter members to be sure that their chapter will be represented at this meeting. Call your chapter president (use the directory on page 2 if you don't know him or her), and ask that your chapter have representation at the meeting. If your chapter leadership refuses to send representation to the meeting, then I encourage you to come to the meeting and make your feelings known.

See you January 29, 1994, in Stevens Point!

Council meets Jan. 29th Elections to be held

The Wisconsin State Council of Trout Unlimited will hold its Annual Meeting on Saturday, Jan. 29, 1994, in Room CPS 116 of the College of Professional Studies Building, University of Wisconsin Stevens Point.

The meeting will begin precisely at 10 a.m., with a full agenda to follow, including discussion of the updating of Wisconsin's inland trout fishing rules, a presentation on the status of coaster

brook trout in Lake Superior and much more.

Elections will also be held for the following Council positions: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. Nominations for any of these positions should be submitted to Steve Born, 424 Washburn Place, Madison, WI 53703. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor the day of the meeting.

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Executive Council meets, discusses regs changes

The Executive Council of the Wisconsin State Council of Trout Unlimited met on Dec. 4th in Stevens Point. Among the many topics covered was one concerning review and updating of the inland trout fishing regulations.

Since the Department of Natural Resources intends to update the inland trout regulations for implementation by the 1996 trout fishing season, Executive Council members felt that it was important for Wisconsin T.U., as the voice for the coldwater resource in the state, to develop and enunciate a position on the regulation updating.

As a starting point for discussion at the next, and future, Council meetings, the Executive Council set forth the following ideas on the regulation review, including:

*Scrapping the Type I Category (10 trout/day, no size limit) completely;

*Merging the Type 3 (three trout/day, nine-inch size limit) and the Type 4 Categories (three trout/day, eight-inch limit on brooks, 12-inch limit on browns and rainbows) into some other condensed category;

*Expand the Type 5 Category (special regulation) to other trout waters and review the existing Type 5 waters based upon accurate biological information; and

*Drop the current early trout season that exists in eight southwestern Wisconsin counties (Columbia, Crawford, Grant, Green, Iowa, Lafayette, Richland and Sauk) in favor of a general season opener below a certain east-west boundary line (Highway 23 was used as an example) that would occur some-

time in March.

The Executive Council stresses that these ideas are only ideas for the basis of a beginning discussion of the regulation review, and that they do not represent a position of the Wisconsin T.U. Council.

Other items discussed by the Executive Council were:

*The status of the "Friends of Wisconsin T.U." program and the viability of establishing a corporate "Friends" program;

*Developing a position statement and targeting T.U. involvement for winter meetings to be held statewide on agricultural runoff problems associated with water quality;

*Putting together a committee to coordinate a successful Awards and Conservation Banquet for 1995;

*Noting an urgent need to obtain updated information from all chapters on the extent of their chapter involvement in Youth/Education activities;

*Reporting on the emergence of a new group - the River Alliance of Wisconsin - that is planning to focus on issues impacting riverways in the state;

*Revising the method of gathering chapter financial statements for rebate purposes;

*Updating information on remediation steps that are occurring or that are needed to correct damage done to the La Crosse River in Fort McCoy by military maneuvers; and

*Discussing the need to update the Council's information on annual chapter water resource work.


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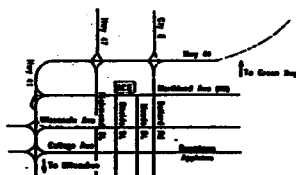
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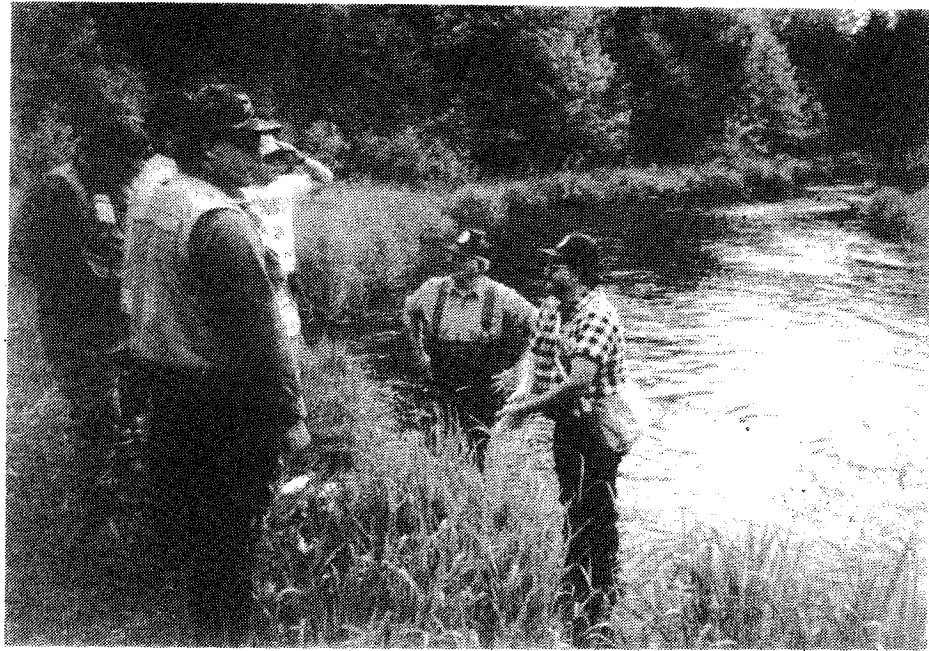
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Central WI T.U.'ers (in stream) prepare to give casting lessons to fly fishing school students.

Fly fishing school finances educational programs

By Russ Bouck

The Central Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited has developed a unique method of financing its educational programs through sponsorship of an annual "Fly Fishing School". This spring, the chapter will conduct its 18th such school at Camp Hiwela near Wild Rose, Wisconsin.

Among the programs funded by the school proceeds is the Bill Beck Memorial Scholarship, which furnishes 50 percent of the tuition costs for a graduate student in fisheries (or a closely-related field) who attends a state college or university. The past two recipients have been enrolled in graduate school at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

In addition, every year the chapter furnishes each area high school library with a book relating to trout fishing and/or fisheries conservation. The chapter also helps fund scholarships for junior and senior high school students to attend summer conservation workshops.

And a new activity begun this year is the furnishing of subscriptions of Trout magazine to various public libraries in the area.

All this is possible due to the fly fishing school, which is geared to both beginners and intermediate fly anglers. In 1994, the school will be held June 3-5, beginning on Friday evening, June 3rd, and running through Sunday afternoon, June 5th.

Class enrollment is limited to 25 participants in order to ensure a low student-teacher ratio.

The chapter prides itself on the qual-

ity and quantity of instruction offered. Sessions are held in the classroom, at waterfront casting docks and at stream-side on some of the best trout waters in central Wisconsin. Much of the total instructional time is spent on these waters.

Classes are offered in tackle selection and care, stream etiquette and ethics, reading the water, fly casting, insect identification and imitation, knot tying, fly presentation, fly tying and more. All instructors are T.U. members and some are the most experienced fly anglers in the Midwest.

The chapter feels it offers a very moderately-priced and informative experience that compares well with other such schools across the country. The school fee is \$200 (\$180 if paid in full prior to April 1), with a \$75 deposit due no later than May 1. The cost includes room and board at Camp Hiwela.

If you've ever thought about taking up fly fishing or considered polishing your fly fishing skills, the Central Wisconsin T.U. fly Fishing School is an excellent opportunity to do so. The school also makes an excellent gift to a spouse or friend. Accommodations are available for men, women and couples.

Interested groups or chapters can contact the school director to borrow and review an informative video tape about the school. For more information or to obtain an enrollment blank, contact school director Ted Bouressa (evenings) at (715) 258-0934. Or, write to him at 417 Van St., Waupaca, WI 54981.

Governor backs skills initiative

Governor Tommy Thompson has endorsed increased state efforts to keep conservation traditions and outdoor skills alive by "helping youth enjoy the woods and wildlife."

During a late July visit to the Sandhill Outdoor Skills Center at Babcock, Thompson said his 1995-97 budget would include a Wisconsin Youth in the Outdoors initiative to reach "a generation that has more barrier between it and the outdoors than any generation before it."

"I want innovative ideas that don't cost a fortune, but are worth their weight in gold because they perpetuate the outdoor traditions that have helped make our state great," the governor said.

He said the initiative should include education, training and hands-on experience.

He asked Natural Resources Secretary George Meyer to prepare the plan by the fall of 1994, and to confer with the Conservation Congress, outdoor groups, educators, environmental and

business interests and youth in that process.

Thompson said trends are working against hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation, noting that demographic changes, habitat loss, urbanization, family breakups and less free time threaten the future of hunting and fishing.

On his visit to Sandhill, the governor watched central Wisconsin youth and adult volunteers practice orienteering skills with compasses and maps, track wildlife by radio telemetry and target shoot.

Sandhill was opened in 1992 to teach outdoor recreation skills. It's located on the 9,000-acre Sandhill Wildlife Area, and is equipped with a shooting range, trails, orientating course and opportunities for supervised hunting, trapping and wildlife watching.

The governor recommended new funding for the center in 1993-95 biennium. The state budget passed this summer includes an extra \$11,000 for center programs.

'Friends of Wisconsin T.U.'

The Wisconsin State Council of Trout Unlimited invites all T.U. members to start the year off right by joining the distinguished list of people listed below as "Friends of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited".

Begun in 1990, the "Friends" program has been a huge success for Wisconsin T.U., and, more importantly, for the coldwater resource of Wisconsin. The Council has placed over \$12,000 from "Friends" donations into resource and research projects that will benefit trout and trout anglers in our state.

Most recently, the Council approved an appropriation of \$7500 to assist the Department of Natural Resources with the purchase of a "Rotary Screw Fish Trap" for the DNR's Coldwater Research Team. The equipment will allow the DNR to study the populations of unique strains of salmonids in Wisconsin, such as the anadromous strain of brown trout that interchanges between Emmons Creek and the Waupaca Chain of Lakes in Waupaca County.

For a \$100 or more annual contribution to the "Friends" program, you will receive a "Friends" pin plus a certificate of appreciation suitable for framing. And, you will be listed in four consecutive issues of Wisconsin Trout along with those other T.U.'ers who've made a commitment to the "Friends" program.

So, let the spirit of the New Year extend to your concern and appreciation of Wisconsin's coldwater resources. Use the form below to join the "Friends of Wisconsin T.U." today. And encourage a fellow T.U. friend to do likewise. The more "Friends" we have, the more we can do for our trout resource!!

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Lake Superior's forgotten fishery: the coaster brook trout

By Lee Newman

(Lee Newman is a Biological Science Technician with the Fishery Resource Office of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in Ashland, Wisconsin. This article is re-printed with the author's permission.)

Lake Superior once held bountiful and apparently inexhaustible fisheries. The deep, cold waters of the lake abounded with lake trout, whitefish, and herring, while the warmer waters of protected bays held walleye, northern pike, smallmouth bass and yellow perch.

Explorers also found another spectacular fishery, and that was for the giant brook trout of Lake Superior. The rocky shorelines of the lake and its cold water tributaries were the domain of vast numbers of two to ten pound brook trout that were dubbed "coasters" because of their affinity for the coastline habitat.

Brilliantly colored, easy to catch and of unsurpassed quality for eating, the coaster brook trout quickly earned Lake Superior a world-wide reputation as the ultimate place to fish for big brook trout. By the mid-1800's, affluent anglers, many of them from Europe, were journeying to Lake Superior to sample the fishery.

Streams that provided spawning habitat for large runs of fish were the primary target for anglers. Larger rivers such as the Nipigon in Ontario and the Bois Brule in Wisconsin became the mecca for brook trout aficionados. The Bois Brule saw four United States presidents fishing her waters, and the area was home to Calvin Coolidge's "Summer White House" in 1928.

As more fishermen came, trouble signs began to appear. In the 1800's and 1890's, newspapers started commenting on the "wanton destruction" of the fishery. Various accounts described fishermen catching "boatloads of three to four pound coasters" and began to express concern for the future of the fishery.

But no protective action was taken, and by the 1900's it was all over. Coaster brook trout populations collapsed on a lake-wide basis. Except for a few small and isolated populations, the strain was virtually extirpated from the Lake Superior watershed.

With the current trend among scientists and the public to place more emphasis on the protection and restoration of indigenous species, fisheries managers for Lake Superior have begun to think very seriously about the future of the coaster brook trout.

At a 1992 interagency conference on coaster brook trout, Lake Superior fisheries managers agreed on a number of points:

1. Coaster brook trout are a genetically unique stock that is specifically adapted to Lake Superior.

2. Current populations are at critically low levels. The few remnant populations (mainly in the Nipigon River and around Isle Royale) number only in the hundreds.

3. The coaster brook trout fishery was a valuable resource, and the fish likely played a vital role in the fish community of Lake Superior.

4. Immediate action should be taken to protect the remnant stocks of coast-

ters, biological studies should be initiated and ways of restoring populations in Lake Superior should be explored.

In April of 1993, the Lake Superior Technical Committee, which represents fishery management agencies around the lake, authorized the creation of a working group charged with collecting data and making recommendations for restoring the coaster brook trout in Lake Superior. Although managers expect that restoring this great game fish will be difficult and will require years of effort, they also believe that its restoration is a worthy goal.

"Stewardship" fund preserves 75,000 acres

By Rep. Spencer Black
(D.-Madison)

In its first three years of existence, Wisconsin's Stewardship Fund has surpassed expectations by protecting more than 75,000 acres of prime Wisconsin wildlife habitat and natural areas. The largest land purchases to date include:

*The Turtle-Flambeau Flowage in Iron County (17,000 acres of pristine natural area);

*Over 7,000 acres along the Lower Wisconsin Riverway, part of a protection effort to protect the islands, bluffs and shorelands along 92 miles of that river from Prairie du Sac to the Mississippi River. The area protected includes Blackhawk Ridge, a key recreational area which was the site of the "Battle of Wisconsin Heights" during the Blackhawk War;

*More than 1,000 acres added to the Southern Kettle Moraine State Forest, protecting the largest remaining natural area in the southern kettle moraine area;

*Protection of Lulu lake, the last undeveloped lake in southern Wisconsin.

The Stewardship Fund has also assisted in the development of several key recreational facilities, including the "400 Trail" between Reedsburg and Elroy, the Chippewa River Trail in the Eau Claire area, and the Ice Age Trail which traverses the state from Lake Michigan to the St. Croix River.

A hallmark of the Stewardship Fund was its emphasis on cooperation with local government and citizen groups. An element of this cooperation is the provision of matching funds to local governments across the state to expand local parks and recreational facilities as well as to protect natural areas and open space.

Development of the River Walk in Wausau and expansion of the "E-Way" in Dane County are examples of the fruits of this state-local cooperation fostered by the Stewardship Fund.

In addition to providing money for the state to purchase land for conservation, the Stewardship Fund also pro-

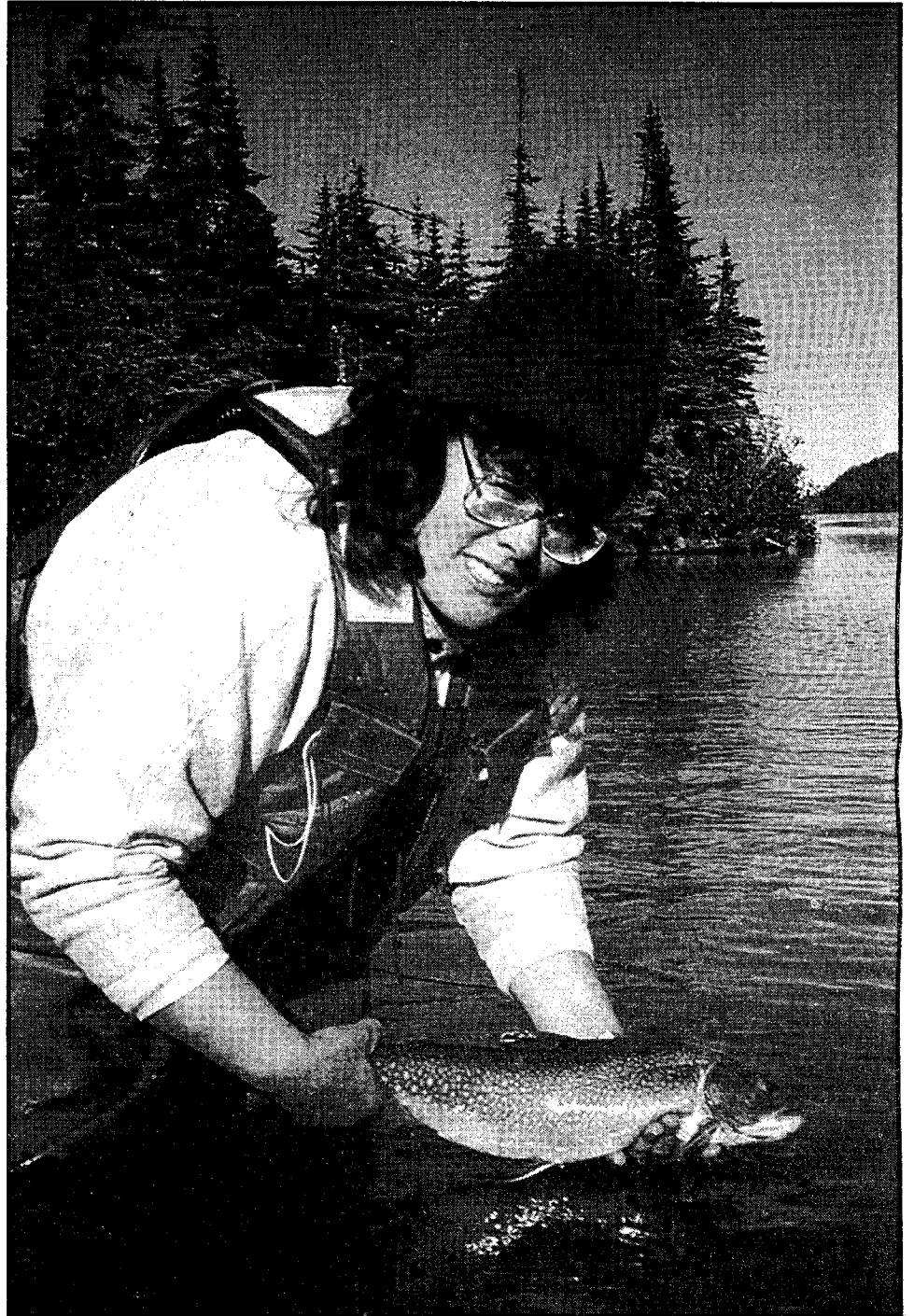


Rep. Spencer Black
(D.-Madison)

vides grants to non-profit conservation organizations to aid them in their continuing struggle to protect Wisconsin's natural resources.

Examples of Stewardship grants include awards to The Nature Conservancy to purchase the Mink River Estuary in Door county; to the Madison Audubon Society for the purchase of Goose Pond Sanctuary; and to the Cedar Lakes Conservation Foundation for the purpose of Big Cedar Lake Park in Washington County. In all, the Stewardship Fund has provided an incentive for private groups to invest over \$1.5 million to preserve over 2,500 acres.

Protecting our Wisconsin inheritance of natural beauty, abundant wildlife and outdoor recreational opportunity is just about the wisest investment we can make. The investments we've made over the past three years will pay big dividends to future generations. The Stewardship Fund is the brightest indicator of our renewed commitment to preserving our natural heritage for future generations.



Biologist releases live coaster brookie into Lake Superior bay after sampling.



BUY EXTRA
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Wisconsin Trout Unlin

ALDO LEOPOLD CHAPTER

No report

ANTIGO CHAPTER

No report

BLACKHAWK CHAPTER

No report

CENTRAL WISCONSIN CHAPTER

During fall, Central WIT.U.'ers held several workdays on the White River in Waushara County, hauling in rock to repair an oxbow section of streambank that had eroded. Members also worked on Bowers Creek in Waushara County, hauling in rock to repair an oxbow section of streambank that had eroded. Members also worked on Bowers Creek (Waushara County), removing brush and installing brush bundles. Bowers Creek is one of the primary trout spawning tributaries for the White River.

The chapter has some upcoming events on the schedule that might interest other T.U.

TU'ers. On Feb. 20th, the chapter's annual "Fly Tying Day" will be held at the VFW Hall in Oshkosh. Central WI members will give pointers to novice fly tiers, and there will also be a tackle swap. Featured speaker will be chapter director Tom Boario; his topic will be "Yellowstone: An Intimate Fly Fishing Journey and Discussion on one of the World's Unique Natural Systems."

On March 26th, the chapter will host its annual banquet at the Oshkosh Hilton. And, as noted in a separate article in this edition, the chapter will host its annual Fly Fishing School June 3-5 at Camp Hiwela in Wild Rose.

For information about any of these events, call Dave Johnson at (414) 361-3046.

COULEE REGION CHAPTER

No report

FOX VALLEY CHAPTER

The chapter spent three workdays in October. On the 2nd, members helped scatter-plant a mixture of regular hatchery brown trout as well as browns hatched under the state's new "Wild Trout Initiative" into the Tomorrow River. The "wild" browns stocked were from the fertilized eggs of brown trout from Radley Creek in Waupaca County.

On the 16th and 30th, chapter members toiled on habitat work on the Waupaca River where it flows through the Morgan Farm.

Chapter meetings during fall were entertaining. A fine crowd heard Ross Mueller give a talk and slide presentation on New Zealand trout fishing at the chapter's October dinner meeting. In November, Janie Peabody from Mountain Bay Sportswear reported on Patagonia outerwear to the membership. She also presented the chapter with a check for \$375 from Patagonia as part of their Salmonid Restoration Program.

The chapter's work at the Bubolz Nature Center continues, with the possibility of building another handicapped wheelchair access pier. The chapter will again stock trout in the Nature Center's pond in spring for the fishing pleasure of handicapped citizens.

The chapter will host its annual banquet on Saturday, March 12, at the Country Aire in Appleton. Contact Gene Weber at (414) 757-5740 or Dale Peterson at (414) 725-7825 for tickets and/or information.

FRANK HORNBERG CHAPTER

The chapter held a "Kids Fishing

Day" Sept. 11th for 14 youngsters from the Portage County Big Brothers/Big Sisters program on the Wisconsin River. The kids caught some fish, ate lunch and had a great time.

During summer and fall, the chapter concentrated much work effort on Peterson Creek in Waupaca County. Focusing on a 400-foot stretch of stream, the chapter installed sandbag wingdams, brush matting and brush bundles to narrow the stream channel, increase stream velocity and thus scour out a layer of sediments that was covering gravel and rubble substrate that provides spawning areas for trout.

As a result of the effort, spawning trout have now returned to Peterson Creek in this stretch, which was historically an important spawning area for the stream.

Other work days by the chapter in fall included two days repairing wing dams and installing brush bundles in the Middle Tomorrow River where it flows through the farmland of Jerry Raddatz.

During winter, the chapter will begin preparation for habitat work on Ten Mile Creek in Wood County. Preparations will include bank brushing and development of tree drops and log retards. Future plans include an access road, parking area and angler trail.

Chapter elections in November, 1993, produced the following results: President: Jeff Dimick; Vice-President: Ken Kreager; Secretary: Cheri Baltus; Treasurer: Ken Kreager.

Chapter meetings include an outdoor gear swap and fly tying demonstration in November, and a special presentation in December by members Virgil Peters and George Rogers on a historical and nostalgic review of trout fishing in central Wisconsin circa the early 1900's.

The chapter's second annual Conservation Banquet is set for Tuesday, March 22, 1994, at Shooter's Supper Club in Plover. Tickets are \$20 and can be obtained by calling Jeff Dimick at (715) 341-6647.

GREEN BAY CHAPTER

During fall, the chapter appropriated \$500 for a 1994 "Kids Fishing Day" and \$900 for scholarships to summer conservation camps for area middle-school and high school students.

The Nicolet National Forest has made requests for cooperative funding for trout habitat improvement on Forest streams to the chapter in the amount of \$10,600. The chapter will review the requests in early winter and make recommendations thereafter.

Chapter Youth/Education coordinator Bob Heim is continuing to direct completion of the chapter's "Educational Trout Stream Display" at the Brown County Reforestation Camp. More funds will be appropriated for work in 1994.

Wednesday, March 16th, will mark the chapter's annual Conservation Banquet, again to be held at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Green Bay. For ticket information, call Gary or Jan Stoychoff at (414) 499-5307.

HARRY NOHR CHAPTER

No report

KIAP-TU-WISH CHAPTER

The chapter continued monitoring water temperatures in the Kinnickinnic River in River Falls (Pierce County) through the summer of 1993. Because of the cool summer, water temperatures never reached their normal levels, and the effects of stormwater impacts on the river's thermal regime were muted. The data collected, though, will give

valuable comparison base line data when "hot" summers return.

Chapter members have been gearing up to urge the River Falls City Council to support a comprehensive stormwater management plan for the City of River Falls in order to protect the water quality and thermal regimes of the "Kinni", which is the receiving water for the stormwater.

In late September, KiapTU-Wish T.U.'ers stocked 10,500 brown trout from the St. Croix Hatchery in the Main and Race branches of the Lower Willow River. Sad to note, though, that on the same day that the chapter was putting new life into the Lower Willow, one of its oldest and best known members - Dick Frantes - passed away at age 71 due to lung cancer.

LAKESHORE CHAPTER

A combined effort by the Lakeshore T.U. Chapter, the Hornberg Flyfishers of Green Bay and the Helen Shaw Flyfishers of Sheboygan produced a program in mid-October at Manitowoc's Club Bil-Mar by Dave Ruetz on nymph fishing. Over 60 people saw the program, and another joint program by the groups is in the works for January, 1994.

The chapter's annual fall outing for salmon fishing on the Manitowoc River was held on a very cold Saturday in October, and only about a dozen big chinooks were landed.

The chapter is busy this winter with several projects. A fly tying class will be held on four Tuesdays in February in the Manitowoc-Sheboygan area. Also, plans are being made for work days on streams in Manitowoc and Sheboygan counties during the spring and summer of 1994.

Work is underway for the chapter's annual banquet to be held in March. For time, date and details, call Jeff Preiss at (414) 773-2693.

MARINETTE COUNTY CHAPTER

The chapter reports that over 100 beaver were removed from targeted waters in 1993 by contract trapper Jerry Giese. Camp 5, Camp F, Swede John and Swamp Creeks and the Big Eagle River systems are being maintained in a free-flowing state. The chapter intends to continue maintenance work on those streams and begin contracted beaver trapping on the Wausaukee River system in 1994.

The chapter contributed \$1,000 to the DNR to help buy the Evergreen Trout Hatchery in southern Marinette County. The hatchery lies over springs feeding the North Branch Beaver Creek, and the DNR intends to remove the hatchery in order to stop hatchery contaminants from flowing into the North Branch.

The chapter also pledged \$1,500 to the Nicolet National Forest for funding habitat work on Brule Creek near Alvin in Forest County in 1994.

Work is underway to gain necessary permits and site preparation to construct a sand/sediment trap in the South Branch Beaver Creek in Oconto County.

The chapter's annual and successful Conservation Banquet is set for Monday, March 7, at The Dome in Marinette. Tickets are \$25. Contact George Bereza, 1205 Currie St., Marinette, WI 54143, or call him at (715) 735-3486.

NORTHWOODS CHAPTER

In November, the chapter heard from North Central District DNR fish manager "Duke" Andrews about changes that may occur with future trout seasons and special regulations. Chapter members also shared their thoughts and

ideas with Andrews on that subject.

The chapter's Christmas party was held Dec. 9th at Holiday Acres in Rhinelander, with awards and gift exchanges occurring.

The chapter's annual banquet is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 19, at the Rhinelander Cafe & Pub. Tickets are \$25.00. For information, call Dave Newhouse at (715) 362-5263.

OCONTO RIVER

WATERSHED CHAPTER

In a resume of the chapter's accomplishments for 1993, chapter president Dave Brunner announced several items that were not noted in past issues of Wisconsin Trout, including:

*Awarding a \$300 scholarship to a UW-Stevens Point student majoring in fisheries;

*Sponsoring five persons with special needs for the annual "Fishing Has No Boundaries" handicapped fishing outing in Hyward, WI;

*Making a donation to the Oconto County Sportsmen's Alliance to enable them to complete a land purchase of 40 acres in Oconto County;

*Donating cash to the Lone Oak Gun Club to help sponsor a fishing day for residents of the Woodland Village Nursing Home in Suring;

*Sponsoring a trout fishing tank at the Gillett Fair in August for young and old alike; and

*Holding a "Handicapped Fishing Day" in late September in Dave Brunner's pond in Underhill.

OJIBLEAU CHAPTER

During the winter months, the chapter is planning to sponsor a rod-building class, regular monthly programs, a formal fly-tying group and an April banquet. The chapter is also investigating the possibilities of hosting a "Youth Learn-to-Fish Day", as well as habitat work projects for 1994.

SHAW-PACA CHAPTER

The chapter reports that its 1994 scholarship award winner is Nicholas Schertz of Oshkosh. Schertz is majoring in fisheries management at UW-Stevens Point.

In fall, two of the chapter's most active and faithful members, Tom Newcomb and Louis Hoffman, passed away. The chapter will be looking to rebuild its ranks and move forward in 1994.

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN CHAPTER

Fall chapter meetings included a September presentation by Dave Ruetz on the "Secrets of Nymph Fishing"; an October talk and slide show by DNR fish manager Scot Stewart on Black Earth Creek (Dane County); and a November talk by Pat Ehlers, owner of The Fly Fishers in Milwaukee, on "Fly Fishing Alaska".

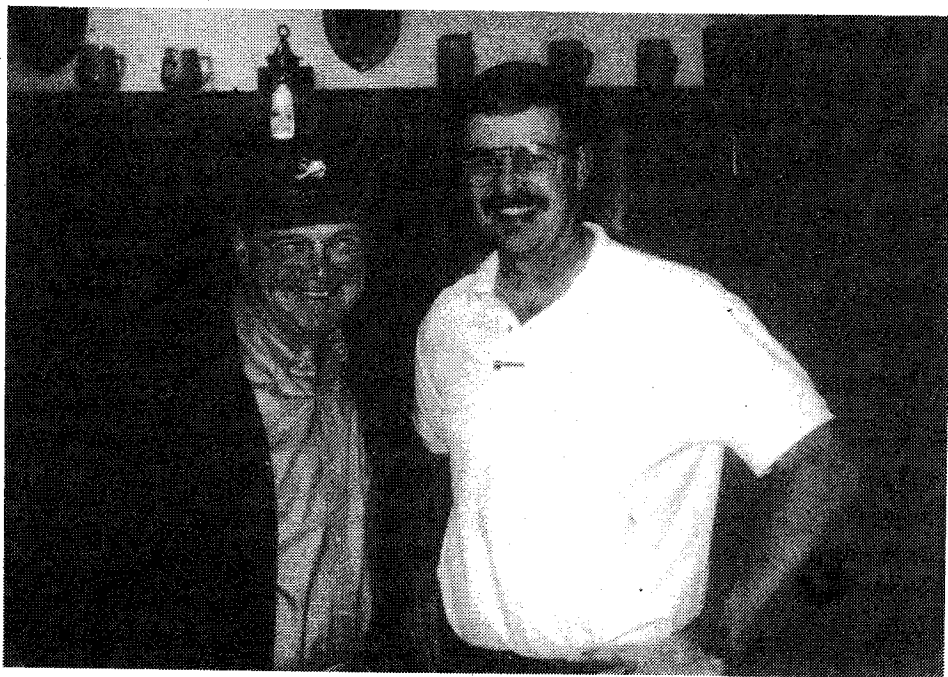
The chapter's third annual Steelhead Saturday will be held on the Root River on March 19, 1994.

SOUTHERN WISCONSIN CHAPTER

In fall, the chapter held its first Women's Fly Fishing Workshop, with the organizing committee including Claire Mirande, Sara Johnson, Jennifer King, Sara Bro-Hinds and Jeri Smith. The September event was one of the most rewarding of which the chapter has been part in many years.

During November, the chapter began a fencing project along Garfoot Creek in Dane County on the Meinholtz property. The work involved installing 3,000 feet of fencing and three cattle crossings.

Limited Chapter reports



Pat Ehlers, owner of "The Fly Fishers" in Milwaukee, and Dave Beckwith (r) at S.E. Wisconsin T.U. meeting.

All in all for 1993, the chapter was able to schedule and complete 12 stream workdays, despite record rains and flooding. Work involved brushing, fencing, stream clean ups and maintenance repairs.

For summer, 1994, the chapter is focusing on a project on Vermont Creek in Dane County located on the Johnson-Danz property. Along a 2,500 foot stretch, the chapter plans to protect and care for existing trees, install LUNKER structures and do rip-rapping and seeding.

Most chapter effort at the moment is being directed to the chapter's annual ICE BREAKER seminar (see separate article).

During fall, the chapter members were treated to several fine programs.

In October, free-lance outdoor writer-photographer John Beth gave a talk and slide presentation to a packed house on fishing trout and salmon on Great Lakes tributaries. At the November meeting, DNR fisheries manager Dave Vetrano from La Crosse informed members of studies of the main stem of the Kickapoo River and future projects for the West Fork Kickapoo River.

In December, Bob Nasby addressed the group on fishing for steelhead, brown trout, salmon and northern pike.

Winter programs include a January presentation by Steve Born on New Zealand Fishing (in conjunction with the chapter's annual fly tying-night), and an April talk and program by Clay Reines on spring creek fishing.

WILD RIVERS CHAPTER
No report

WISCONSIN RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER
No report

WOLF RIVER CHAPTER

Chapter president Herb Buettner reports that he has been active with the Environmental Practices Committee of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress, the newly-formed "Rivers Alliance of Wisconsin" and other groups to generate understanding of attempts to

weaken the classification of the state's waters under "anti-degradation" rules (NR 207). He also notes that the chapter is concerned with the proposed rejuvenation of the proposed Exxon copper-zinc mine near Crandon in Forest County.

Buettner noted that their company's president has joined his chapter as a member, but Buettner said that he told Exxon's president straight out that he and his members will oppose the mine unless wastewater discharge and other currently-proposed aspects of the mine are modified.

1993 Flood and fish

By Lee Kernen

All year long anglers and fisheries people have speculated on what effect the high water and floods of 1993 were having on our fish populations. Have young trout been flushed downstream by the floods? Have our Mississippi River fish been flushed to Louisiana? Did the cool summer disrupt bass spawning in inland lakes or gizzard shad in Lake Winnebago? Will the rain and floods have a devastating effect like the drought of four years ago?

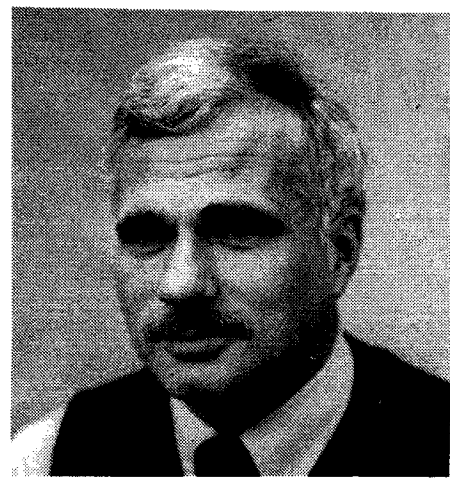
So far the news is all good! The northern pike hatch in the Mississippi was super, and thousands of fingerling northerns have been found all over the river and its sloughs. This could mean terrific fishing in 1995 and beyond.

Mississippi River fish, as biologists expected, either moved out of the channel to avoid the flood currents or dove deep and took refuge behind natural structures to keep from being washed downstream. These fish have grown up with floods, and if they can move sideways or deeper, they will survive. Levies prevent fish from moving, so we are lucky that Wisconsin doesn't have many.

Fisheries biologists have also found young walleyes. And equally as important, shocker surveys have turned up many 11- to 13-inch walleyes from the 1992 year class. That shows these 1½-year-old fish survived the flood too.

We still don't know about bass or panfish, but we are confident that although the flood was devastating to human interests in the floodplain, the fish came through it very well.

The news is good on Lake Winnebago too. High water on the Fox and Wolf



Lee Kernen

River marshes provided perfect conditions for the marsh-spawned walleyes' first year of life. And even though the water was cool this past summer, the gizzard shad had a successful hatch, which will provide walleyes excellent dining for at least a year.

Our inland trout streams also look great. Although severe erosion occurred in some areas, the trout survived. Today the springs and ground water are fully restored from the drought, and the future looks bright.

As more information comes in on our other fisheries, I'll share it with you in a future column. But to sum it up at this time--fish live in the water, and the extra water we had in 1993 helped our fish more than it hurt them.

Initiative seeks to discover why this is. The program began in 1992 and is expected to cost \$100,000 over two years, with much of the money paying for a genetics study.

Courts get tough on trout poachers

Over the years, many trout anglers have been frustrated by lack of time devoted by state conservation wardens to enforcement of trout fishing regulations, and to relatively mild fines meted out by courts to those who were convicted of such violations.

However, some recent events should provide good news to trout anglers, as well as bad news to those who have a habit of overbagging on trout.

A Waupaca County circuit judge fined Terrence A. Firkus, 42, and his son, Jason Firkus, 20, over \$4,700 on September 2, 1993, for possessing 21 trout over the daily bag limit on the opening day of the 1993 trout season.

According to court records, Firkus and son were checked at 11 a.m. in the Town of Harrison in Waupaca County by Department of Natural Resources conservation warden Jim Rice. In the complaint filed by Rice, Firkus and his son had started fishing in the southwestern part of Waushara County early on the morning of May 1, 1993.

They had fished most of the trout streams between Waushara and Waupaca counties when they were checked by Rice, who located the pair on Flume Creek. The pair had 31 trout in possession when they were checked.

Terrence Firkus, when his creel was checked, had four fish in possession, all of them under-sized. Flume Creek is a Type 3 stream (i.e., three trout per day, nine-inch size limit) according to the Wisconsin Trout Fishing Regulations pamphlet.

In a statement made to Rice, the pair said they had "forgotten to bring their trout regulations with them".

Terrence Firkus was given 60 days to pay the balance of his \$2,504.75 fine. His son Jason was given a fine of \$2,282.50. He has up to a year to pay via a \$200/month installment plan worked out with the court.

In Oconto County, conservation warden Bob Goerlinger caught one James Langdon and his son, both from Wabeno in Forest County, leaving the McCaslin Brook with 14 trout in possession, which is four over their combined limits (the McCaslin is a "Type 2" stream, i.e., five trout/day, seven-inch size limit).

Goerlinger cited the two with a criminal violation of NR 20.01, which calls for a \$100/trout fine for any trout taken in excess of the daily bag limit. Neither of the Langdons objected when the case was brought to Oconto County circuit court on August 26, 1993, and the judge handed out a total fine and forfeiture charge of \$918 for the four trout taken in excess of the daily bag limit.

While these cases do not necessarily say that all circuit court systems are punishing trout poachers severely, they do indicate that judges are taking much more stringent measures to punish those who wantonly rob from all of us when they exceed legal daily bag limits on fish.

And that is good news for the trout resource and the law-abiding trout anglers in Wisconsin.

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Wayne Anderson, Wolf River Tape Author
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Rivers studied for "wild,"

The U.S. Forest Service conducted four public information and input sessions during August to inform citizens of the ongoing studies of five Wisconsin rivers - the Peshtigo, Pine and Popple in the Nicolet National Forest and the South Fork of the Flambeau and the East Fork of the Chippewa in the Chequamegon National Forest - for possible inclusion into the Federal Wild and Scenic River Program.

The sessions were held in Armstrong Creek in Forest County, Madi-

son, Park Falls and Draper in Sawyer County.

The objectives of the meetings were to:

- Explain the process used to designate a river under the Wild and Scenic Rivers program;
- Find out from citizens about outstanding features of the rivers which the Forest Service was unaware;
- Listen to citizen concerns and questions;
- Respond to those concerns.

Just what is a "Wild and scenic" river? It is a free flowing river or river segment with outstanding scenic, recreational, geographical, fish and wildlife, historic, archeological or other values which has been designated by act of Congress of the Secretary of the Interior as part of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

Designation of a river under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act affords the river certain legal protections from adverse development and provides a mechanism

for management of river resources.

The principal effect of the Act is to preclude or severely limit the construction of dams and other water resources projects on the river which might affect the free flowing nature of the river and its other resources. Designation also affects the management of federal lands in the river corridor. Rights to future development of private lands can be purchased under the land acquisition authorities of the Act.

Management standards or requirements have been developed for each of

Management Activities Chart

Activity	Wild Rivers	Scenic Rivers	Recreational Rivers
TIMBER PRODUCTION	Cutting of trees will not be permitted except when needed in association with a primitive recreation experience (such as clearing for trails and protection of users) or to protect the environment (such as control of fire). Timber outside the boundary but within the visual corridors will be managed and harvested in a manner to provide special emphasis to visual quality.	A wide range of silvicultural practices could be allowed provided that such practices are carried on in such a way that there is no substantial adverse effect on the river & its immediate environment. The river area should be maintained in its near natural environment. Timber outside the boundary but within the visual scene area should be managed & harvested in a manner which provides special emphasis on visual quality.	Timber harvesting would be allowed under standard restrictions to protect the immediate river environment, water quality, scenic, fish and wildlife, and other values.
WATER SUPPLY	All water supply dams and major diversions are prohibited.	All water supply dams and major diversions are prohibited.	Existing low dams, diversion works, rip rap and other minor structures are allowed provided the waterway remains generally natural in appearance. New structures are prohibited.
HYDROELECTRIC POWER	No development of hydroelectric power facilities would be permitted.	No development of hydroelectric power facilities would be permitted.	No development of hydroelectric power facilities would be permitted.
FLOOD CONTROL	No new flood control dams, levees, or other works are allowed in the channel or river corridor. The natural appearance and essentially primitive character of the river area must be maintained.	Flood control dams and levees would be prohibited.	Existing flood control works may be maintained. New structures are prohibited.
MINING	New mining claims and mineral leases are prohibited within 1/4 mile of the river. Valid claims would not be abrogated. Subject to regulations (36 CFR 228) that the Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior may prescribe to protect the rivers included in the National System, other existing mining activity would be allowed to continue. Existing mineral activity must be conducted in a manner that minimizes surface disturbance, sedimentation, and visual impairment. Reasonable access will be permitted.	Subject to regulations (36 CFR 228) that the Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior may prescribe to protect values of rivers included in the National System, new mining claims and mineral leases could be allowed and existing operations allowed to continue. However, mineral activity must be conducted in a manner that minimizes surface disturbance, sedimentation and pollution, and visual impairment.	Subject to regulations (36 CFR 228) that the Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior may prescribe to protect values of rivers included in the National System, new mining claims and mineral leases are allowed and existing operations are allowed to continue. Mineral activity must be conducted in a manner that minimizes surface disturbance, sedimentation and pollution, and visual impairment.
ROAD CONSTRUCTION	No roads or other provisions for overland motorized travel would be permitted within a narrow incised river valley, or if the river valley is broad, within 1/4 mile of the river bank. A few inconspicuous roads leading to the boundary of the river area at the time of the study will not disqualify wild river classification. Also unobtrusive trail bridges could be allowed.	Roads may occasionally bridge the river area, and short stretches of conspicuous or longer stretches of inconspicuous and well-screened roads or screened railroads could be allowed. Consideration will be given to the type of use for which roads are constructed and the type of use that will occur in the river area.	Paralleling roads or railroads could be constructed on one or both river banks. There can be several bridge crossings and numerous river access points.
AGRICULTURE	Agricultural use is restricted to a limited amount of domestic livestock grazing and hay production to the extent currently practiced. Row crops are prohibited.	A wider range of agricultural uses is permitted to the extent currently practiced. Row crops are not considered as an intrusion of the "largely primitive" nature of scenic corridors as long as there is not a substantial adverse effect on the natural-like appearance of the river area.	Lands may be managed for a full range of agricultural use to the extent currently practiced.
RECREATION DEVELOPMENT	Major public-use areas, such as large campgrounds, interpretive centers or administrative headquarters are located outside the wild river area. Simple comfort and convenience facilities, such as fireplaces or shelters may be provided as necessary within the river area. These should harmonize with the surroundings.	Larger scale public use facilities such as moderate size campgrounds, public information centers, and administrative headquarters are allowed if such structures are screened from the river. Modest and unobtrusive marines also can be allowed.	Campgrounds and picnic areas may be established in close proximity to the river. However, recreational classification does not require extensive recreation development.
STRUCTURES	A few minor existing structures could be allowed assuming such structures are not incompatible with the essentially primitive and natural values of the viewshed. New structures would not be allowed except in rare instances to achieve management objectives (i.e., structures and activities associated with fisheries enhancement programs could be allowed.)	Any concentrations of habitations are limited to relatively short reaches of the river corridor. New structures that would have a direct and adverse effect on river values would not be allowed.	Small communities as well as dispersed or cluster residential developments are allowed. New structures are allowed for both habitation and for intensive recreation use.
UTILITIES	New transmission lines, gas lines, water lines, etc. are discouraged. Where no reasonable alternative exists, additional or new facilities should be restricted to existing rights-of-way. Where new rights-of-way are indicated the scenic, recreational, and fish and wildlife values must be evaluated in the selection of the site.	This is the same as for wild river classifications.	This is the same as for wild and scenic river classifications.
MOTORIZED TRAVEL	Motorized travel on land or water could be permitted, but is generally not compatible with this classification.	Motorized travel on land or water may be permitted, prohibited, or restricted to protect the river values.	Motorized travel on land or water may be permitted, prohibited, or restricted. Controls will usually be similar to surrounding lands and waters.

"scenic" designation

the three classifications of Wild and Scenic Rivers - wild, scenic and recreational. The appropriate classification depends on the level of use in the river corridor at the time of designation.

A river may be classified entirely under one category, or separate segments of the river may be classified under different categories. The description of the categories are thus:

WILD - rivers that are free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trail, with watershed or shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted. These represent vestiges of primitive America. Most of these river segments are located on public lands.

SCENIC - rivers that are free of impoundments, with shorelines or watersheds still largely primitive and shorelines undeveloped, but accessible in places by roads.

RECREATIONAL - rivers that are readily accessible by road or railroad, that may have some development along their shorelines and that may have undergone some impoundments or diversion in the past.

When rivers are being studied for designation as "Wild", "Scenic" or "Recreational", citizens living in the vicinity of such rivers raise concerns about private property rights with regard to river designation.

The Forest Service explains in a handout sheet that river management

plans and precise river corridor boundaries are put together after the river has been designated. Designation would not effect ongoing regular uses of private lands, particularly those existing at the time that the river receives designation in one of the three categories.

Most private land use, says the Forest Service, is compatible with management of designated rivers. If a river is designated, the agency develops boundaries and management plans with public involvement. Extra efforts are made to involve private landowners - to determine their concerns, to address the issues they raise and to assess how they react to and feel about various management activities.

Many of the concerns coming from citizens at these meetings dealt with the impacts of forestry that river designation would have. At the hearing in Armstrong Creek, T.U. member Walter Bettin of Townsend reported that the people were concerned with the proposal that a one-quarter mile buffer of land on each side of the river would be part of the designation.

Such a designation of those rivers, said meeting attendees, would be highly restrictive to logging and would result in job loss in an already economically depressed area.

A Forest Service spokesperson at that meeting said that an alternative to the quarter-mile setback could be a "line of sight" system, whereby the

setback would reach only as far as one could see from the river.

Questions also arose as to what river designation would have on trout management in the rivers under study in the Nicolet Forest (Peshtigo, Pine and Popple). The Forest Service said that only a few main tributaries would be included in the designation process, such as the North, South and Main branches of the Popple River, and that beaver trapping would be allowed if the dams are causing river degradation, loss of river flow, damage to natural appearance or interference with natural activity of trout.

Also, designation would not preclude trout habitat improvement on the rivers, provided that structural improvements do not alter the natural appearance of a river.

There is much more study to be done on these five rivers, as well as the Brule River between Wisconsin and Michigan's Upper Peninsula, before designations are made. The Forest Service intends to keep in contact with citizens and groups like Trout Unlimited to ensure that final designations of rivers or their segments provide for both river protection and the needs of private landowners.

Help pass on outdoor traditions

Does your organization have members who are really good at explaining an outdoor skill? Did they give slide shows or talks about skills or hobbies that were entertaining and informative? Are they equally good at explaining something step-by-step to adults and youngsters? If so, we're lookin' for 'em.

Wisconsin Natural Resources, DNR's bimonthly color magazine, is looking for authors who would be willing to write about outdoor skills. Whether you're bag is hunting, fishing, camping, becoming a more observant wildlife watcher, orienteering, hiking, boating or some other aspect of outdoor recreation, we'd like to work with you.

We want articles that are equally appealing to youngsters and adults who are curious but inexperienced in a particular area. We'll also need to arrange to take photos that provide step-by-step instruction. Here are some of the ideas that occurred to me. These and many more would make interesting reading:

* **Raising, catching and keeping fishing bait.** How to keep yourself supplied with winter grubs, worms, hellgrammites, minnows, grasshoppers and leeches.

* **Understanding topographic maps.** How to use topological maps and orienteering skills to plan backwoods hikes and hunts.

* **Rabbit hunting.** What's happened to cottontails and why don't more people hunt them? Rabbit hunting used to provide the first hunting experience for many youngsters, but we don't hear much about it now.

* **Wildlife gastronomy.** Picking hunting spots or wildlife viewing spots by watching browse and positioning yourself near wildlife food patches at the proper time of day.

* **Planning and planting for birds.** Companion planting of food and cover, nest boxes, feeding stations, water and winter feeding that could attract birds to your back yard.

* **Wisconsin underground.** Locations and descriptions of spelunking opportunities in Wisconsin.

* **Building a rod.** Wisconsin has many skilled rod builders who could explain how to craft fishing gear that's just perfect for panfish, trout, salmon or even catfish.

* **Building a bow.** Same deal for archers.

* **Tap the sap.** Collecting and making syrup from home trees.

* **Training dogs.** Introductory lessons to prepare puppies for hunting classes.

* **Low-impact camping.** Tips for lightening what you leave behind whether you are backpacking or site camping.

* **Weaving with native materials.** Finding and preparing vines and saplings for basket weaving.

* **Under the grill and over the coals.** Tips on collecting and using woods and wild herbs for smoking and barbecuing.

* **Drink up.** Recipes for collecting herbs, leaves, barks and berries that can be brewed into teas, cold drinks or even root beer.

* **Trying and buying binoculars for bird watching.**

* **Neighborhood astronomy.** Stargazing in the city or in the country.

* **Homemade birdseed mixes, deer licks, etc. to attract wildlife.**

If you're knowledgeable about any of these topics or another story idea occurs to you, contact me at *Wisconsin Natural Resources*, P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707. I'll forward writer's guidelines and describe the process to get you going. Writing for the magazine is a great way to meet new people and share ideas. The publication reaches 90,000 subscribers and more than 300,000 readers in each issue.

(Larry Sperling is the editor of *Wisconsin Natural Resources* magazine.)

Trout stamp revenue expenditures for 1992-93

Each year the Department of Natural Resources collects a hefty amount of dollars from trout anglers via sales of inland trout stamps (\$7.25 each). The stamp purchase is required for all trout anglers 16 years of age and older, except for those who possess Senior Citizen Recreation cards.

Trout anglers are often curious as to where their trout stamp dollars go. So,

we are listing here the amounts of money applied to various trout habitat improvement projects during the past fiscal year (July 1, 1992-June 30, 1993). We are only able to list the dollars spent on the streams listed, and not what type of work was done on the streams, as the DNR was unable to provide that information.

County or Area	Project Name	Dollars Allotted
Adams	Neenah Creek	\$14,423
Barron	Yellow River	\$16,574
Bayfield	North Fish Creek	\$ 950
	Pikes Creek	\$4,000
Burnett	Dogtown Creek	\$ 5,600
Chippewa	Elk Creek & Sand Creek fencing	\$10,000
Dane	Black Earth Creek	\$10,000
Dodgeville Area	Brush area trout streams	\$ 8,000
	Habitat maintenance	\$2,530
Forest	Brule Spring dredging	\$ 8,000
	South Branch	\$22,680
Jackson	Trempealeau River	
Juneau	Juneau County streams	\$ 9,375
La Crosse	DNR/DOT Cooperative project	\$ 7,518
Langlade	Saul Spring dredging	\$10,000
Marathon	Evergreen and Plover Rivers	\$12,973
Marinette	Habitat maintenance	\$ 8,400
Oconto	South Branch Oconto River	\$21,000
Portage	Poncho Creek	\$11,685
Price	Foulds Spring dredging	\$26,237
Rusk	Fishery Area fencing	\$10,000
St. Croix	Kinnickinnic River fencing	\$10,039
Sawyer	Price & Hackett creeks maintenance	\$ 7,455
Sheboygan	Mullet River	\$21,930
Vilas	Plum Creek	\$11,000
Washburn	Five Mile Creek	\$ 8,100
Waukesha	Paradise Springs	\$24,348
Waupaca & Waushara	Habitat maintenance	\$13,785
Wisconsin Rapids	Habitat maintenance	\$ 1,870
Statewide	Printing trout stamps	\$ 5,650
TOTAL		\$346,842

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Wisconsin trout stream profile - Rosenow Creek

While hardly the mecca for trout fishing, southeastern Wisconsin does have some trout waters that are worth note. The limestone bedrock of the area combines with a good supply of headwater springs to give rise to some fertile and productive streams.

One such trout stream is Rosenow Creek, the subject of this issue's "Wisconsin Trout Stream Profile".

Rosenow Creek is a three-mile long Class I stream that drains into 1,200 acre Lac LaBelle in Waukesha County. Holding wild brown trout and native brook trout, the creek flows right through the city of Oconomowoc.

The Department of Natural Resources has acquired fishing and habitat easements on approximately 0.6 mile of stream, plus outright fee title ownership on another half-mile. Landowners along the stream's banks are proud of the uniqueness of having a trout stream in their urban setting, and they seldom bother anglers who fish the creek.

The DNR has managed Rosenow Creek primarily through restoration of sections of the creek that had been ditched in the past; this has occurred in the 0.6 mile section under easement. In conjunction with the Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited, the DNR installed over 60 half-logs and dozens of brush bundle shelters in Rosenow Creek. Trout numbers jumped four-fold in the first quarter-mile segment of stream that was restored.

Shocking demonstrations by the DNR proved to T.U. members and others the effectiveness of the habitat improvement work done on Rosenow Creek. However, anglers soon found out how wary and difficult to catch the wild browns of the creek were. Anglers catches consisted primarily of the native brook trout, even though the species composition of the creek was mostly browns.

The wariness of the browns, though, could not save the fish from the late-1980's drought. After 1989, the trout population crashed, and trout anglers lost interest in fishing Rosenow Creek. The brook trout rebounded from the drought much better than did the browns, and now the species composition of Rosenow Creek is highly tilted in favor of the native brookies. This may change as anglers return to Rosenow Creek and harvest the more gullible brook trout.

In past years, the creek also supported an anadromous run of brown trout that lived most of the year in Lac LaBelle. This run has not been in evidence in recent years, due likely to the

water quality and fish composition of Lac LaBelle.

The future of Rosenow Creek merits close watching to ensure that this precious resource is not abused or over-exploited. Construction of a four-lane highway near the creek's headwaters area is in the offing, and this project must and will be closely monitored to make certain that no harm comes to the creek.

Another aspect of Rosenow Creek is worth noting. In a study done by researchers of the University of Wisconsin, data indicates that the creek's brook trout population has some unique genetic composition. The DNR is already using those brook trout to repopulate other streams in the same drainage area on which the Department is working to restore habitat.

Rosenow Creek is also the highest candidate stream in the area for inclusion in the Category 5 "special regulation" list. Browns up to 20 inches have been caught by anglers and turned over by DNR shocking crews, and this indicates the type of quality-sized fish that the creek could produce given the proper application of restrictive angling regulation.

The future of the creek, according to the DNR, depends, however, on the health of the brook trout population, a species which the agency wants to thrive in the future.

Fishing Rosenow Creek is a challenge. The stream averages eight-12 feet in width, and six inches to a foot in depth. The stream bottom is mostly sand and gravel, and there are heavy growths of watercress where sunlight reaches the streams.

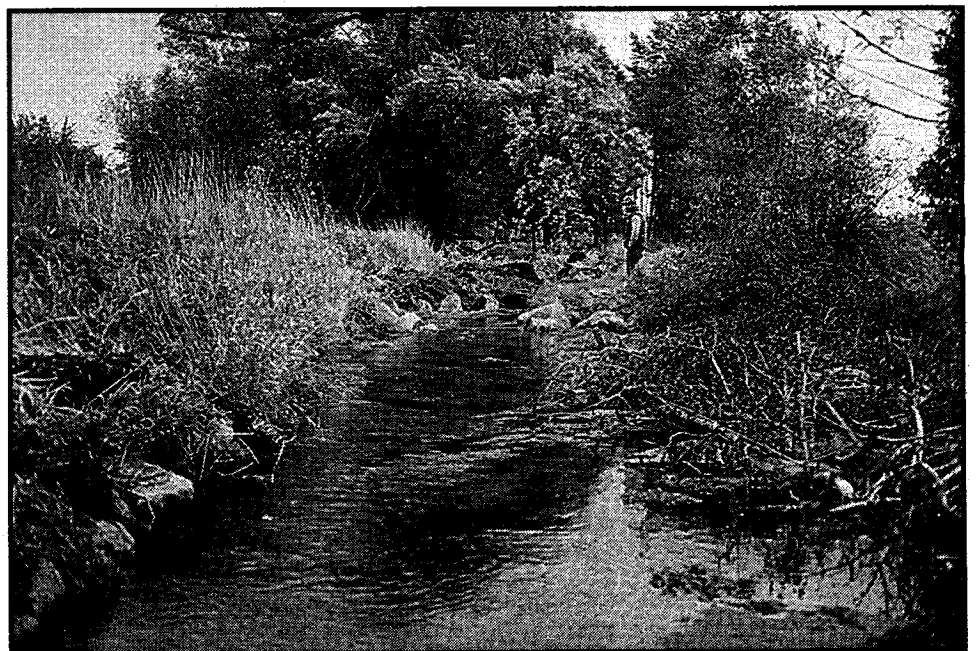
The largest brown and brook trout are apt to hit minnow imitations like streamer flies or spinners, while the smaller trout bite well on scud and terrestrial insect imitations.

The many rocks and boulders placed in the creek via habitat improvement operations are covered with case-building caddis flies that use small pebbles in building their cases. Thus, caddis fly patterns are also effective in getting the trout to strike.

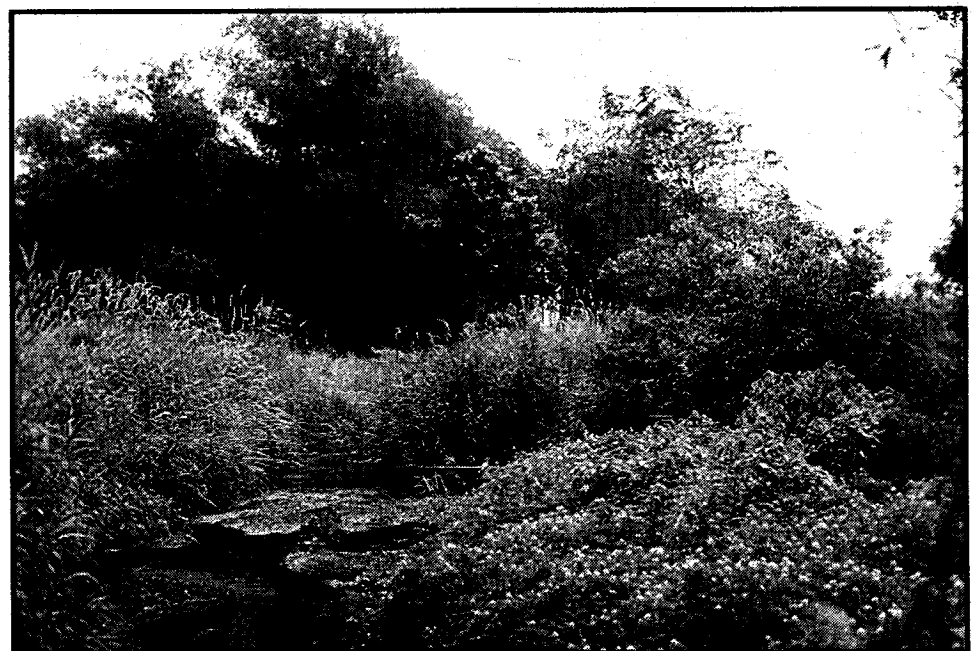
There is an old cliché that says that "good things come in small packages", and Rosenow Creek certainly fits that description. Amidst an area that is heavily-populated, it is still producing a thriving trout fishery for area anglers to enjoy. Given proper protection and regulation by the DNR and other resource agencies, this little jewel will continue to provide quality trout fishing time for anglers of southeastern Wisconsin.



(Before) A ditched section of Rosenow Creek (April, 1981).



(During) Brush bundles and bank cover installed in Rosenow Creek (July, 1983).



(After) Rehabilitated section of Rosenow Creek (August, 1984).

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WISCONSIN TROUT WATERS

DNR trout stream information transferred to county maps.

Maps show Class I & II streams with color overlay.

Adjoining Federal, State, County & Town roads shown.

*Includes trout species
*\$12.95 per copy delivered

CLARKSON MAPS

P.O. Box 218 Kaukauna, WI 54130-0218

Wisconsin DNR fish manager profile: Randy Schumacher

Challenges abound for anyone entering into a career in fisheries management. Attempting to maintain a quality set of fisheries while providing adequate public use and enjoyment of those resources takes creativity and initiative.

And those challenges become even larger when one attempts to deal with fisheries in the heavily-populated and urbanized section of southeastern Wisconsin. But Randy Schumacher - the subject of this issue's Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources fish manager profile - is definitely one person who is up to that task.

Edward R. "Randy" Schumacher, age 41, is a native of Wausau. A graduate of Wausau Newman High School, Schumacher attended the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, from where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Fisheries Management and Biology in 1974.

Subsequent to graduation from "Point", Randy hooked up with the Wisconsin Cooperative Fishery Research Unit in 1975, and then became part of the DNR's Lake Michigan Fisheries Management team in 1975-1976. From 1976-1978, he was the DNR's Burlington Area Fish Manager.

In 1979, Randy took the position as the Fisheries Supervisor for the DNR's Eagle District Station in the Southern Kettle Moraine State Forest, a position which he has held ever since.

The landscape of southeastern Wisconsin has undergone vast changes over the years, and Schumacher describes those impacts on the area's coldwater resources.

"As Fisheries Supervisor, I oversee the fisheries operations crew at Eagle and work together with people like John Nelson and Rick Knapp at Plymouth and Sue Beyler at Eagle," said Schumacher. "I take care of Sheboygan, Ozaukee, Washington, Waukesha and Milwaukee counties."

"The focus of our work has been habitat protection and restoration," he notes. "We are very proud of our projects like Paradise Springs, the headwaters of the Scuppernong River and the South Branch of the Scuppernong River, where we have taken grossly degraded streams in which trout have been extirpated and have restored them to thriving Class I trout waters."

Continuing, he said, "in 1980, Waukesha County had only 10 miles of stream classified as trout water. Now, after years of work by our crew, the county has 29 such miles. And there is

the potential for much more coldwater habitat restoration in the county and area, but we just don't have the time to do what we'd like to see get done."

When reviewing the problems facing the inland trout resource in his domain, Schumacher points to the high human population density as the most troublesome factor facing the trout resource.

"Working in a rapidly urbanizing county like Waukesha (or Washington), one notices that severe pressure is placed upon the remaining streams with trout potential," he states. "Many people want to build a 'country estate' and have on it a trout pond, usually one built on a springhead. In many cases, we must say 'no' to pond builders in order to preserve our headwater base of cold water."

"Also," he adds, "most of our streams have been ditched from back around the turn of the century when the land was put into agriculture. Even after 80-90 years, the trout have not come back to them naturally."

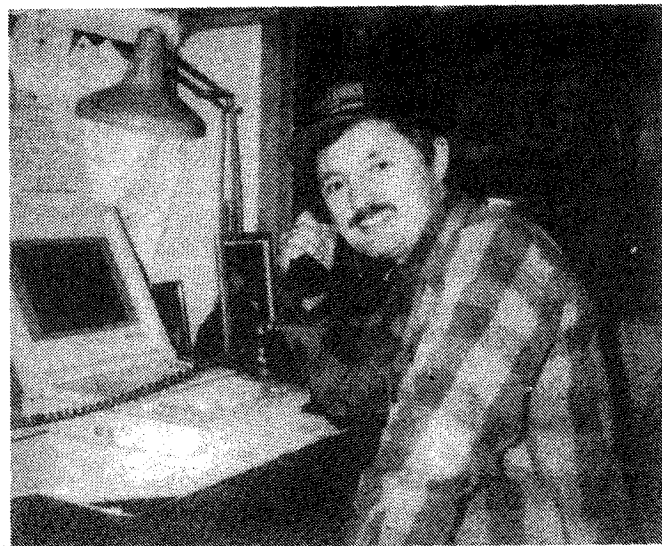
"Restoration of these streams is expensive," he explains, "because the habitat work that needs to be done to restore the streams is very labor and material intensive. Thankfully, many of the springheads are still around and viable, so water temperatures are good and natural reproduction of trout is even possible."

"Almost all of our trout reproduction occurs in short, high-gradient areas at the base of the 'interlobate' or 'kettle moraine'," Randy adds. "If we lose these spawning areas through ditching or pond building, the entire stream below the headwaters becomes devoid of trout."

As to be expected, streams that exist in areas of dense human populations are exploited heavily by anglers. So, angling restrictions have been placed on many of the streams and ponds which Schumacher oversees in order to preserve the trout populations.

"Even before the new inland trout fishing regulations were established," he noted, "we had the second 'catch-and-release', artificials-only area for trout in the state, that being at Paradise Springs in Waukesha County. We know of individual trout in that pond that have been caught and released as many as a dozen times in a summer."

Randy also mentioned that little stocking is needed to maintain the Paradise Springs fishery, and that prior to the new "catch-and-release" regs on the springs, a daily bag limit of two had been imposed on the fishery to address obvious exploitation problems.



Randy Schumacher

While Schumacher and his crew do a solid job on coldwater resource enhancement, management of the area's warmwater fisheries requires the bulk of the time he and his crew allot to fish management.

"Warmwater lake management, by necessity, dominates our program," he said. "Our anglers can be sitting in the First Wisconsin Center in downtown Milwaukee at 4:30 p.m., and can then be fishing one of our lakes or streams by 5 p.m. We pride ourselves in being able to offer quality fishing experiences at the doorsteps of 40 percent of Wisconsin's population."

Randy also made mention of exploitation problems facing warmwater fish species in his area.

"We're beginning to manage lakes for trophy gamefish and for panfish," he said. "As an example, on Lac Labelle we have instituted a 20-inch minimum size limit on walleyes, and we are restricting panfish anglers to a daily bag of 15."

"Also, we're working on restoring populations of northern pike, which we've observed to be in serious decline over the past 20 years," Schumacher added. "We're proposing a 26-inch minimum size limit and a two per day bag limit on northerns in this part of Wisconsin. Our 240 lakes are among the most heavily fished in the state, so maintaining quality fisheries there--as with our trout streams--is quite a challenge."

When Schumacher isn't busting his butt for the fishery of southeastern Wisconsin, he spends much time with his wife Jenny, son Aaron and daughter Kristen. He also enjoys hunting and fishing, collecting old fishing equipment and gathering and collecting old pottery.

Randy's career efforts have not gone unnoticed by those anglers for whom he serves. He has received awards from

such groups as the Waukesha County Conservation Alliance (Conservationist of the Year) and Walleyes Unlimited (Angler of the Year). He has also been honored by the Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited with their "Achievement Award" and he's received a "Special Achievement" award from the DNR's Southeast District for his efforts in building citizens' coalitions.

As he looks to the future, Randy is excited about the possibilities for habitat protection in his area.

"Our area is leading the state in the retirement of streamside corridors under the Stewardship streambank easement program," he noted. "John Nelson at our Plymouth station deserves much of the credit for this. Some of these miles of streambank will have long-term benefits for the coldwater resource, particularly at the upper reaches of the Sheboygan and Milwaukee rivers."

"Not many people realize," Randy said, "that the headwaters of the Milwaukee River (one branch) is Nichols Creek, a fine Class I brook and brown trout stream."

When assessing his own effort over the years, Schumacher is quick to point out that the accomplishments to date are team accomplishments, and that folks like fish manager John Nelson and fishery technicians Sue Beyler and Rick Knapp work in concert with him as a "team".

That is true. But good teams are derived from good leaders, and Randy Schumacher is that type of leader who has surrounded himself with quality staff people in order to meet the immense challenges that face the entire fishery resource of southeastern Wisconsin.

And for that, as well as for all the efforts of him and his "team", anglers of all persuasions owe a debt of thanks to Randy for outstanding performance.



Randy Schumacher sampling trout from Rosenow Creek.

Fish die-off at Lincoln Park Zoo

Up to 12,000 brown trout being raised at a cooperative Department of Natural Resources and Manitowoc Great Lakes Sport Fishing Club rearing pond died in early September, 1993, when vandals unplugged an aerator.

Mark Oppenorth, a DNR fish operation coordinator, said vandals broke into the Lincoln Park Zoo sometime in the evening of September 6th (Labor Day evening) and disconnected the aerator. The 12,000 fish that died had been scheduled for release into Lake Michigan in fall of 1993, and Oppenorth

stated that the fish loss would definitely short the DNR's stocking quota for Lake Michigan.

Oppenorth said that a dollar value had not been assigned to the fish kill yet, but he expected it to be an extensive one.

The fish ranged in size up to nine inches.

Another 15,000 brown trout were not affected, and Oppenorth said that the survivors were released as scheduled into Lake Michigan within two weeks after the vandalism at the Lincoln Park Zoo.

Foundation makes conservation grants

Oftentimes, a chapter project may get bogged down, because the chapter's financial situation isn't solid enough to fund the project. What does one do when that happens?

Outside of seeking cooperative assistance from other T.U. chapters or local conservation clubs, a T.U. chapter can seek help from the **Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, Inc.**, through its **Small Matching Grants Program**.

Since 1990, the NRFW, Inc., has helped fund at least 36 projects that cover a wide variety of conservation work, including trout habitat improvement projects in **Langlade, Oconto and Sheboygan** counties.

The Foundation receives its funds from many small individual donors as well as many Wisconsin businesses and corporations. And it is actively looking for several major sponsors to help fund the Small Matching Grants Program.

The NRFW, Inc., dispenses grants twice a year, on March 1 and September 1. Applicants may apply for up to \$1,000 for worthwhile conservation projects.

The Board of Directors of the NRFW, Inc., reads almost like a "Who's Who" of conservation in Wisconsin. It includes former Department of Natural Resources Secretary Carroll

"Buzz" Besadny and former North Central District DNR Supervisor **John Brasch**. Former Natural Resources Board members **Collins Ferris** of Madison, **Daniel Flaherty** of La Crosse, **Donald Haldeman** of Norwalk and **Stanton Helland** of Wisconsin Dells also serve on the Foundation's Board.

And, T.U. members **Dave Ladd** of Dodgeville, **J. Nash Williams** of Madison and **Toby Sherry** of Madison represent the interests of coldwater resources on that Board.

T.U. chapters that are interested in seeking grants for projects which they plan to undertake are encouraged to make applications. To obtain application forms, write to the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, Inc., P.O. Box 129, Madison, WI 53701-0129. Or, they may call the Foundation at (608) 266-2252.

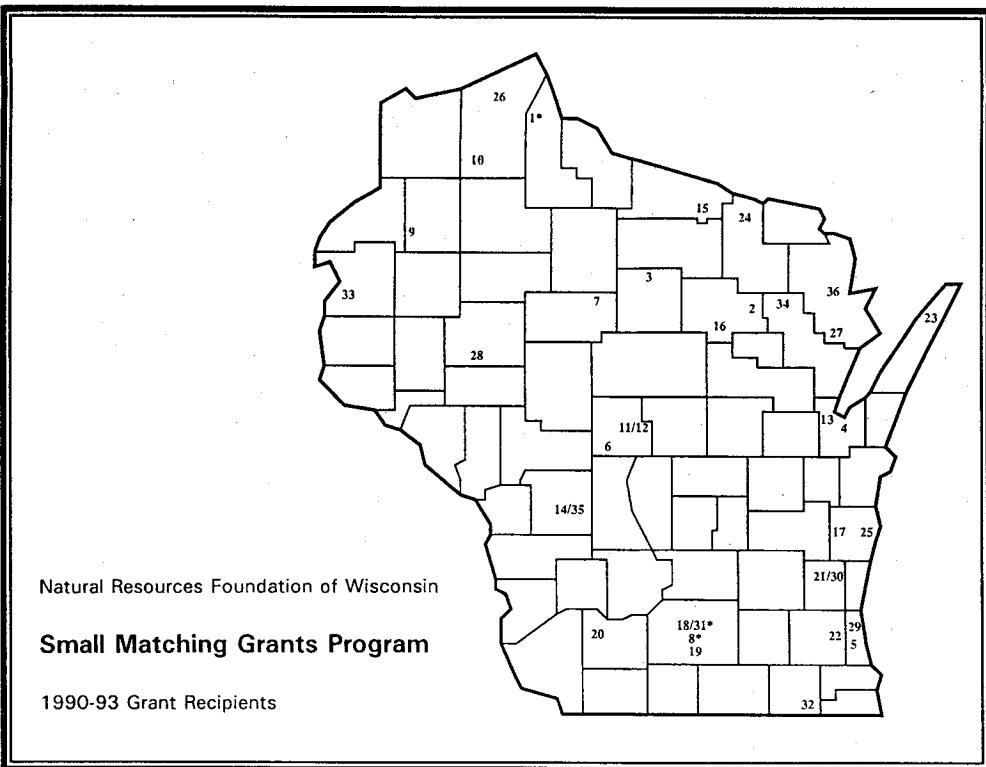
Individuals or chapters who may wish instead to contribute to the NRFW, Inc., may do so, too. Contributors of \$25 or more will receive a one-year subscription or renewal to the award-winning **Wisconsin Natural Resources Magazine**.

The list of projects funded by the Foundation through the Small Matching Grants Program from 1990-1993 is shown here. It will give chapters a good feel for the types of programs that the foundation will help fund.

TROUT STAMP PROJECTS FUNDED FOR 1992 - 1993

District	Area	County	Water Name	Type of Work	Funds Allotted	
LM	Marinette	Oconto	S.Br. Oconto R.	Structures	21,000	
"	"	Area	Area Waters	Maintenance	8,400	
"	Oshkosh	Area	Area Waters	Maintenance	13,785	
"	"	"	"	All	22,720	
NC	Antigo	Langlade & Marathon	Evergreen & Plover R.	Structures & Sand Trap	12,973	
"	"	Forest & Langlade	Brule & Saul Springs	Dredging	18,000	
"	Wis. Rapids	Portage	Poncho Cr.	Structures	11,685	
"	"	Adams	Neenah Cr.	Structures	14,423	
"	"	Juneau	County Waters	Structures	9,375	
"	"	Area	Area Waters	Maintenance	1,870	
"	Woodruff	Vilas	Plum Cr.	Redevelop	11,000	
"	"	Forest	County Waters	Maintenance	2,530	
NW	Brule	Bayfield	Pike's Cr.	Brush. & Struct.	4,000	
"	"	"	N. Fish Cr.	Bedload Study	950	
"	Cumberland	Barron	Yellow R.	Structures	16,574	
"	"	Burnett	Dogtown Cr.	Structures	5,600	
"	"	Washburn	Five Mile Cr.	Structures	8,100	
"	Park Falls	Rusk	Devils & SF Main	Fencing	10,000	
"	"	Sawyer	Price & Hackett	Maintenance	7,455	
W	Bl R Falls	Jackson	S Br Trempealeau	Structures	22,680	
"	La Crosse	Area	Area Waters	Structures	70,000	
"	"	Vernon	Timber Coulee	Maintenance	59,046	
"	"	Area	DOT Bridge	Structures	7,518	
"	"	Area	Area Waters	Cattle Guards	6,051	
"	Eau Claire	Chippewa	Elk & Sand Cr.	Fencing	10,000	
"	"	St. Croix	Kinnikinnic R.	Fencing	10,039	
S	Dodgeville	Area	Area Waters	Brushing	8,000	
"	Horicon	Columbia	Lodi Cr.	Structures	70,000	
"	Madison	Dane	Black Earth Cr.	Struct. & Riprap	10,000	
"	Headquarters	All	All	Equipment	3,500	
SE	Eagle	Waukesha	Scuppernong Spring	Replace Water Control Structure	7,294	
"	"	"	Paradise Springs	Structures	24,348	
"	"	Sheboygan	Mullet R.	Structures	21,930	
"	"	Sheboygan	Glenbeulah Springs	Dredge	16,250	
					Total	569,333

LM = Lake Michigan
 NC = North Central
 NW = Northwest
 W = Western
 S = Southern
 SE = Southeastern



Good news in membership

Council Membership Chairman **Jim Hlaban** reports some encouraging news for T.U. membership numbers.

After several years of declining or stagnant membership, our numbers are beginning to increase a bit. Much of the growth has come from the two largest chapters - **Southern WI** and **Southeastern WI** - but there has also been good growth in **Central Wisconsin** and in **Wolf River** chapters.

Listed below are the chapter membership numbers, with the most recent figures of November, 1993, compared with those of May, 1992.

Perhaps your chapter should make a special commitment this year to focus on membership increase. More members means more support for the coldwater resource!

CHAPTER	May '92	Nov '93	Change (+/-)
Aldo Leopold	48	42	(-) 6

Antigo	28	39	(+) 11
Blackhawk	89	83	(-) 6
Central WI	176	194	(+) 18
Coulee Region	45	45	0
Fox Valley	194	192	(-) 2
Frank Hornberg	27	48	(+) 21
Green Bay	176	176	0
Harry Nohr	36	34	(-) 2
Kiap-TU-Wish	136	130	(-) 6
Lakeshore	84	82	(-) 2
Marinette Co.	66	61	(-) 5
Northwoods	44	59	(+) 15
Oconto River Watershed	68	69	(+) 1
Ojibseau	107	113	(+) 6
Shaw-Paca	65	56	(-) 9
Southeastern WI	260	302	(+) 42
Southern WI	378	410	(+) 32
Wild Rivers	35	42	(+) 7
Wisconsin River Valley	74	65	(-) 9
Wolf River	54	77	(+) 23
TOTALS	2190	2319	(+)129

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

YES! Please begin my one-year introductory membership in *Trout Unlimited* at the rate I have checked below. I understand my dues payment entitles me to all regular membership benefits, including a *TU* decal, personal membership card and quarterly issues of *Trout* magazine with *Action Line*.

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Please check membership category:

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- Century contributor (\$100)*
- Conservator contributor (\$250)
- Individual Life (\$500)(No further dues)*
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- Business membership (\$100)*

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Canadian memberships please add \$5/yr.; all other countries, add \$20/ yr. All contributions over \$12 are tax deductible.

* Note special benefits for these membership categories.
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Mail to: Trout Unlimited, 1500 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22209

Winter "Ice Breaker" trout fishing clinic

The Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited invites all trout anglers to attend the chapter's annual "Winter Icebreaker" trout fishing seminar beginning at 9 a.m. on Saturday, January 22, 1994, at the Park Ponderosa Ball Room in McFarland, Wisconsin (see map for exact location).

This year's featured speakers will be **Bob Jacklin** of Jacklin's Outfitters of West Yellowstone, Montana, and **Don Daughenbaugh**, a much-traveled spring creek angler and fly tyer from Montoursville, Pennsylvania.

Jacklin is the senior guide and outfitter in West Yellowstone, which is often touted as the "Trout Fishing Capital of the United States." He is also a tournament casting champion and a certified casting instructor.

Jacklin's topics will cover fishing such situations as the salmon fly hatch on the Madison River, late summer "terrestrial" fishing, and the techniques for "gulpers" on Hebgen Lake. Weather permitting, he will provide a few casting tips outdoors.

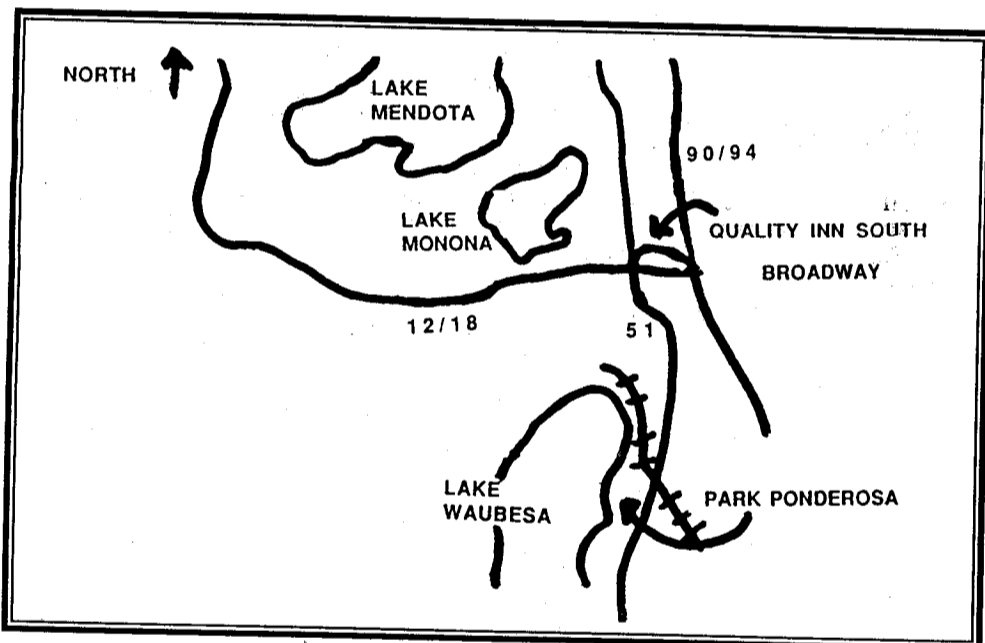
Don Daughenbaugh has been a fly angler and fly casting educator for over

40 years. He lives in north central Pennsylvania amidst 400 miles of the finest "limestone" and "freestone" waters in the northeastern U.S. Since 1961, Daughenbaugh has summured as a Ranger-Naturalist in the Grand Teton National Park. He also teaches special fly fishing programs on the **Big Horn River** in the Big Horn National Recreation Area.

Both speakers will join attendees of the "all-you-can-eat" trout and chicken buffet dinner on Friday evening, Jan. 21, at Quality Inn South, 4916 Broadway, in Madison, and they will give short presentations about angling experiences with noted anglers. Seating for this event is limited, so tickets must be ordered in advance.

On Saturday, doors will open at 8:30 a.m., with the schedule of events as listed on this page.

The event is Southern Wisconsin T.U.'s main fund-raising event of the year, with proceeds earmarked to fund coldwater resource enhancement projects. See the schedule of events for ticket prices and contact persons for the events.



ICE BREAKER ■ TROUT FISHING CLINIC & DINNER SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



Friday, January 21st ■

Trout Dinner with Bob Jacklin & Don Daughenbaugh
Quality Inn South, 4916 Broadway, Madison WI 608/222-5501

5:30 p.m. ■ Cash Bar

6:30 p.m. ■ All You Can Eat Buffet ■ Baked Trout and Chicken

7:30 p.m. ■ Celebrities Don Daughenbaugh and Bob Jacklin

Saturday, January 22nd ■ Trout Fishing Clinic
Park Ponderosa Ballroom, 5100 Erling Ave., McFarland, WI 608/838-9927

8:30 a.m. ■ Doors Open

9:00 a.m. ■ Welcome & Introductions

9:15 a.m. ■ **Don Daughenbaugh** - "Trout Techniques"

10:15 a.m. ■ **Bob Jacklin** - "Fishing Yellowstone"

11:15 a.m. ■ Lunch (nominal Charge) ■ Fly Tying ■ Displays

1:00 p.m. ■ Door Prizes

1:30 p.m. ■ **Bob Jacklin** - Nymphing

2:15 p.m. ■ **Don Daughenbaugh** - Prime Trout Waters in the United States

3:00 p.m. ■ Raffle

3:45 p.m. - 4:15 p.m. ■ Casting Clinic (weather permitting)

For additional information contact: John Strauss, Chair, at 608/835-5672

ADVANCE TICKET SALES

Banquet tickets are \$15.00 each for the Friday night "all you can eat" dinner. There is limited seating and tickets must be purchased one week in advance.

Saturday clinic tickets are \$9.00 each (\$10.00 at the door).

Send a self addressed stamped envelope with your check to:
Greg Hyer, 4296 County P, Cross Plains, WI 53528.

Remember: all proceeds go to cold water conservation projects. Thank you for your support. The Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited

State goes "wild" with hatchery trout

A program in which wild brown trout are brought to hatcheries and their offspring are set free in rivers could have a major impact on future Department of Natural Resources fish stocking practices.

For many years, fish managers have been concerned about the genetic makeup of the state's hatchery-raised trout. The trout came from domestic hatchery stock and have very poor survival rates.

Some of the poor survival rates were attributable to heavy harvest rates, but even when trout fishing was banned or restricted in 1990 and 1991 due to the late 1980's drought, survival rates among stocked domestic trout ranged from zero to 10 percent.

The DNR's Statewide Wild Trout Initiative seeks to discover why this is. The program began in 1992 and is expected to cost \$100,000 over two years, with much of the money paying for a genetics study.

The new program will test a theory that the offspring of wild trout will be warier and will be better-adapted to their environment, giving them a better chance for survival.

In late October of 1993, DNR fishery biologists electroshocked 60 trout from the Namekagon River in Sawyer County and brought them to the DNR hatchery in Bayfield. The eggs of the female trout were fertilized with the milt of the male fish, and the offspring will be raised there for future release into areas that lack natural trout reproduction or that have poor reproduction.

The Namekagon brown trout are a particularly hardy strain, because they can survive relatively warm water temperatures and heavy predation. They can also spawn on the main branch of the river instead of making fall runs into tributaries.

The DNR hoped to obtain enough eggs to raise 3,000 to 5,000 yearling fish, which will be stocked back into the Namekagon along with a like number of hatchery fish in spring.

Similar work has been done with wild brook trout gathered from a tributary of the Namekagon River. Their offspring will be released into the Ounce River in Bayfield County.

Wild brown trout also were gathered in three other parts of the state, where stocking will be repeated.

In northeastern Wisconsin, browns were taken from the **Prairie River** and their offspring released into the **Wolf River**. There were also plans to collect browns from the **Oconto River**.

In central Wisconsin, trout were gathered from **Radley Creek** in **Waupaca County**, and the offspring set free into the **Waupaca River**.

And in southwestern Wisconsin, brown trout were taken from **Rullands Coulee Creek** in **Monroe County** and their offspring stocked into the **West Fork Kickapoo River** in **Vernon County**.

Wisconsin Trout will keep the readership abreast of future developments in this matter.

TROUT FISHING OR STOCKING BROOK - BROWN - RAINBOW

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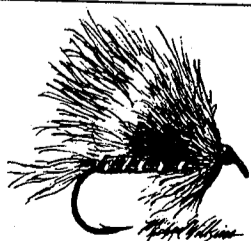
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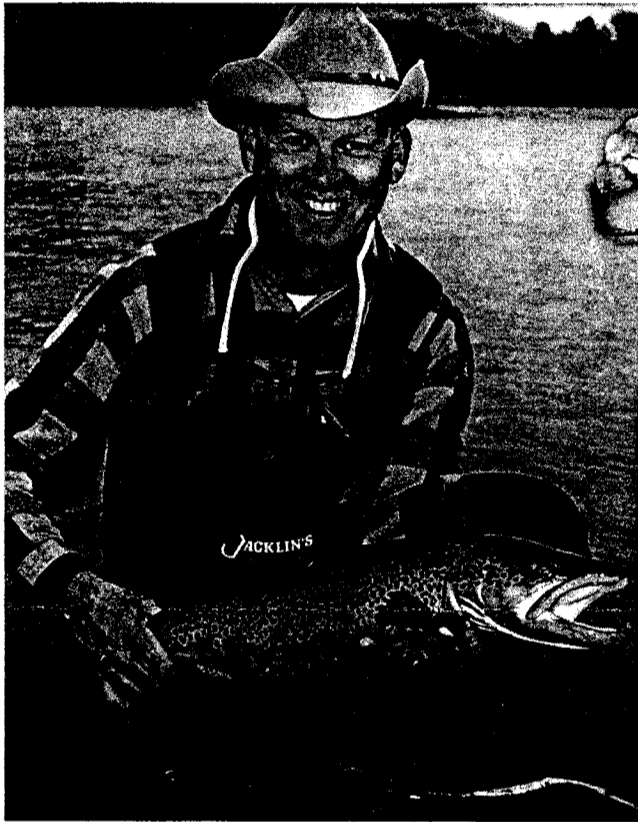
8601 West Greenfield Avenue
West Allis, WI 53214 (414) 259-8100

Southern Wisconsin T.U.'s Annual

ICE BREAKER

January 22, 1994 – General Public Welcome

Featuring the Senior Outfitter and Guide for the West Yellowstone area, tournament casting champion **Bob Jacklin**. Also, **Don Daughenbaugh**, featuring a presentation on "Trout Techniques" for prime waters of the United States and adapting unusual patterns for heavily fished streams.



~ Natural Entomology Exhibits ~ Fly tying Demonstrations
~ Fantastic raffle items and door prizes including:
premium quality rods, presentation quality flies, artwork, and
many other items donated by area businesses



**Park Ponderosa Ballroom
McFarland, WI.**

8:30 AM ~ 4:30 PM (\$10⁰⁰ at door)

Advance Tickets \$9⁰⁰ - Send Self-Addressed Envelope to:
Greg Hyer 4296 Co. Hwy P Cross Plains, WI 53528

Information: Call John Strauss at (608) 835-5672
Sponsor: Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited

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Wisconsin Trout

Wisconsin Trout Unlimited

Spring 1994

Company holds "open houses" for public review

Crandon mine project re-emerges

Mining is back in the news in northern Wisconsin. Exploratory permits are being sought by firms to drill holes in our National Forests. Mines have popped up along places like the Flambeau River and others.

But the most noted and talked-about mining project has been the one proposed in southwestern Forest County near the Mole Lake Reservation. Once thought to be dead, it has come alive again.

The proposed mining project, to be carried out by Crandon Mining Company (formerly Exxon Coal and Minerals Corporation), would be geared toward extraction of zinc and copper from a unique body of ore that has dimensions of 100 feet in width, a mile in length and 3,000 feet in depth.

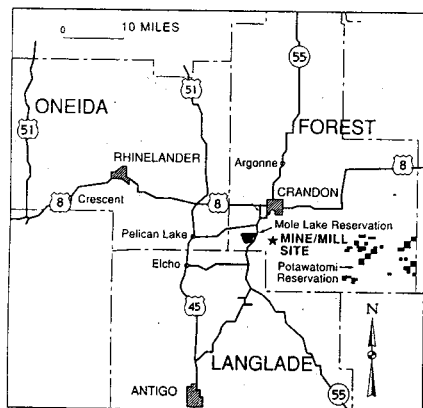
The ore body was first discovered in the mid 1970's by Exxon, and the company spent approximately 11 years going through various studies and permitting processes before it suddenly called off its venture in late 1986, purportedly due to low world-wide mineral prices.

In September of 1993, subsidiaries of Exxon Coal and Minerals Company and Rio Algom, Ltd. (a mining firm whose practices along the Serpent River in Ontario, Canada, are suspected of causing severe environmental damage and subsequent health problems for people living in the area), formed Crandon Mining Company in order to seek permits to mine the ore body that lies five miles south of the city limits of Crandon.

The company's announcement has also stated that the proposed mine "offers many benefits to the area, including 400 to 500 family-supporting jobs and a major addition to the local tax base."

Concerns over the proposed mine have been many.

Members of the Mole Lake band of the Chippewa Nation have expressed fears that mining operations will threaten the beds of wild rice along Swamp Creek, a tributary to the Wolf



River running through the mine site area. Crandon Mining Company (CMC) has stated that one of its options for wastewater discharge may be Swamp Creek, a Class II brook trout stream, but one that has not been given protective status from point source discharge under the state's listing of "Outstanding" or "Exceptional" resource waters.

Other major concerns revolve around the integrity of the Wolf River watershed itself. The Wolf has been designated an "Outstanding Resource Water" by the state, but only after an extensive battle was waged by environmentalists to get the river's classification elevated to that level from its original designation as a "Fish and Aquatic" resource (the lowest designation possible under the classification scheme) in the late 1980's.

Jerry Berg, an engineer with Foth and Van Dyke - a Green Bay engineering and consulting firm, told Wisconsin Trout that the Wolf River has not been ruled out as a possible discharge site for treated wastewater, though he noted that the Wolf's status as an "Outstanding Resource Water" (ORW), meant that any discharge entering the Wolf - either directly or via Swamp Creek - must be of equal or greater water quality than that of the Wolf itself.

In addition, property owners in the general area of the proposed mine have expressed many worries about the mine's impact on groundwater levels. The mine operation would use large quantities of water, and lakefront property owners worry that mining operations would lower groundwater levels to the point where lake levels would decline substantially.

Before building a mine, CMC must obtain permits from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, as well as permits and/or approvals from federal, state and local agencies - forty permits in all. That permitting process will last up to three years, and during that time citizens and groups will have the chance to participate.

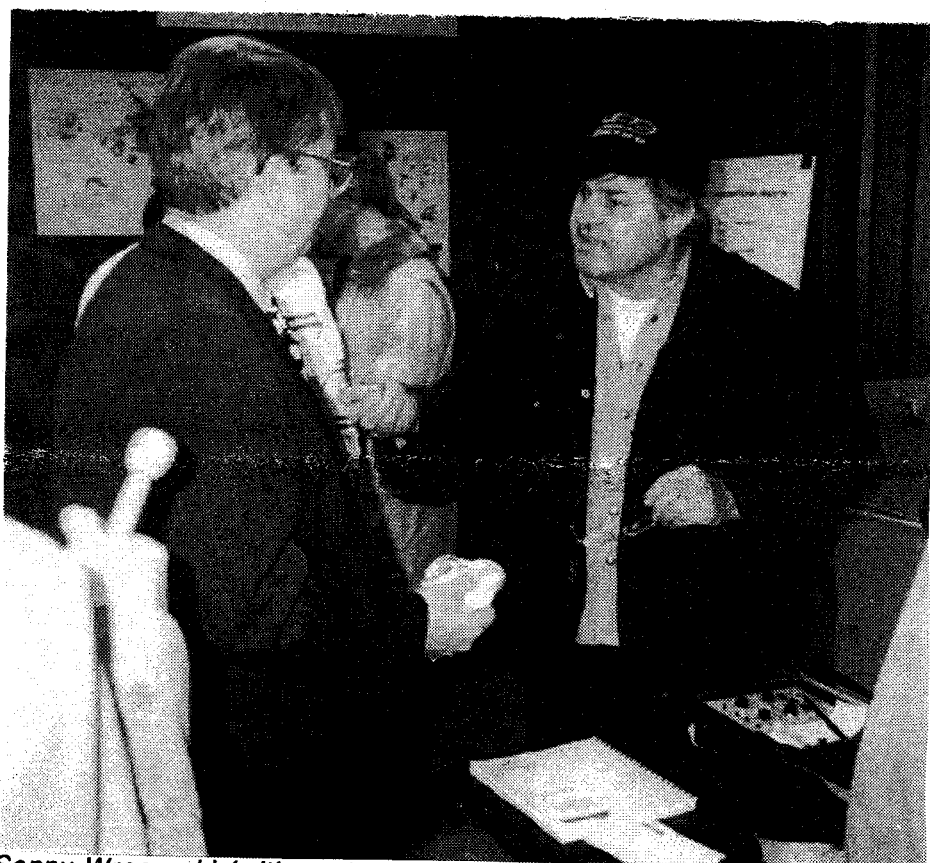
In three "open houses" held by CMC in Crandon, Antigo and Rhinelander, the company displayed its preliminary plans for the mine, and it indicated areas that need to be studied, including: surface water quality, surface water levels, groundwater quality,

wetlands, air quality, aesthetics, archaeology, threatened and endangered species, noise and blasting/vibration effects, socio-economics and tailings management.

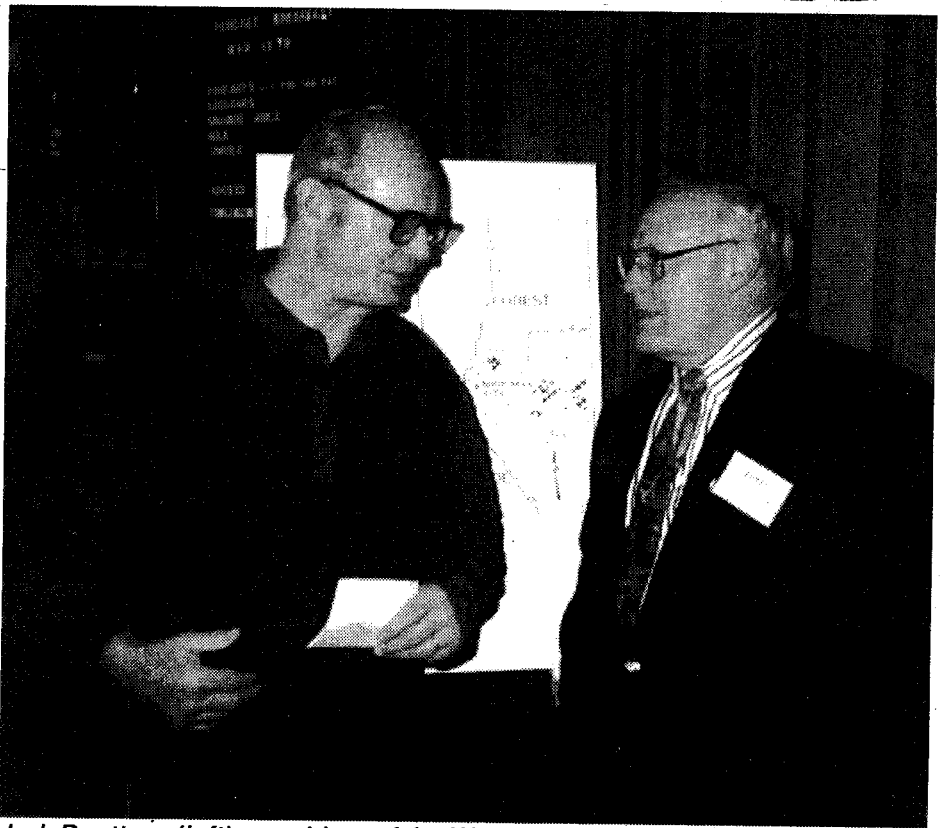
The process for the mining project will be a long one. The Wisconsin State Council of Trout Unlimited will play a role in the process, with its major objective being to ensure that the inte-

grity of the Wolf River watershed and ecosystem is held inviolate.

Persons interested in learning more about the proposed Crandon mine may obtain a detailed packet of information on it (called the "Notice of Intent/Scope of Study" document) by writing to the Crandon Mining Company, 104 West Madison St., Crandon, WI 54520. Or, call CMC at (715) 365-1450.

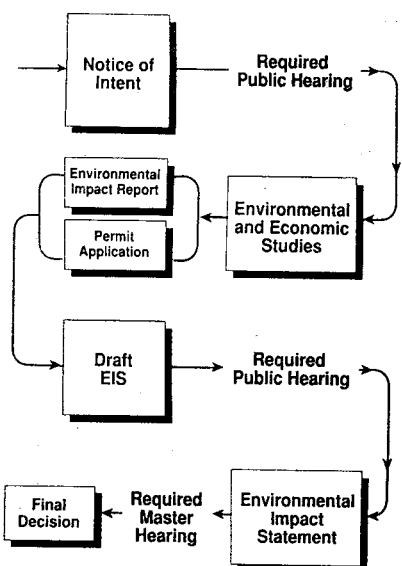


Sonny Wreczycki (with cap) of the Rolling Stone Lake District, Town of Ainsworth (Langlade County) argues with unidentified representative of the Crandon Mining Company over the impacts of the proposed mine.



Herb Buettner (left), president of the Wolf River T.U. chapter, discusses the impacts of the zinc-copper mine proposed to be built near Swamp Creek and the Wolf River with Crandon Mining Company president Jerry Goodrich (right) at an open house meeting in Antigo.

Permitting Process



Wisconsin T.U. Council/Chapter Directory

Chairman: Forrest Grulke, 11 Schmidt Ave., #6, Rothschild, WI 54474 (715) 843-4295 (O), (715) 355-7772 (H).

Vice-Chairman: G. Topf Wells, 4914 Marathon Drive, Madison, WI 53705 (608) 231-3037

Secretary: Dave Johnson, 143 Water St., #108, Berlin, WI 54923 (414) 361-3046 (H)

Treasurer: Ward Cox, N18690 Ten Acre Rd., Goodman, WI 54175 (715) 336-2947

Past Chairman: Steve Born, 424 Washburn Place, Madison, WI 53703 (608) 257-6625 (H)

Fund-raising: John Cantwell, 2286 Mt. Olive, Green Bay, WI 54313 (414) 435-1919 (O); (414) 434-3989 (H)

Legal Counsel: Winston Ostrow, 335 Trader's Point Ln., Green Bay, WI 54302 (414) 469-1596 (H)

Publications: Mitch Bent, 935 South Union St., Shawano, WI 54166 (715) 524-5886

Water Resources: John Crane, N2629 Pleasant Park Lane, Waupaca, WI 54981 (715) 258-9173 (H)

Youth/Education: Dale Lange, N3167 Right-of-Way Rd., Peshtigo, WI 54157 (715) 582-4172 (H)

Membership: Jim Hlaban, 1421 Silverwood, Neenah, WI 54956 (414)

722-4335

Aldo Leopold Chapter (#375): Clint Byrnes, 921 S. Spring St., Beaver Dam, WI 53916 (414) 885-5335

Antigo Chapter (#313): Scott Henricks, 213 Mary St., Antigo, WI 54409 (715) 623-3867

Blackhawk Chapter (#390): Terry Vaughn, 4710 Creek Rd., Beloit, WI 53511 (608) 362-4295

Central WI Chapter: Russ Bouck, 9357 Nelson Rd., Amherst Junction, WI 54407 (715) 824-3781

Coulee Region Chapter (#278): John Bethke, 118 Vernon St., Westby, WI 54667; (608) 634-3641

Fox Valley Chapter (#193): Tom Beyer, 1610 S. Kernan, Appleton, WI 54915 (414) 734-3365

Frank Hornberg Chapter (#624): Jeffrey Dimick, 906 W. Walkush Rd., Stevens Point, WI 54481; (715) 341-6647 (H)

Green Bay Chapter (#083): Janet Smith, 3358 Nautical Ave., Green Bay, WI 54311 (414) 433-3803 (O); (414) 468-6154 (H)

Harry Nohr Chapter (#257): Curt Prideaux, 138 S. Iowa, Dodgeville, WI 53533 (608) 935-5268

Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter (#168): Andy Lamberson, 2104 Chestnut Dr.,

Hudson, WI 54016 (715) 386-7568 (H)
Lakeshore Chapter (#423): Jeff Preiss, 15915 CTH "C", Valders, WI 54245 (414) 773-2693 (H)

Marinette County Chapter (#422): Dale Lange (Same as "Youth/Education")

Northwoods Chapter (#256): Dave Newhouse, P.O. Box 1293, Rhinelander, WI 54501 (715) 362-5263 (H)

Oconto River Watershed Chapter (#385): Dave Brunner, 5473 Cardinal Rd., Gillett, WI 54124 (414) 855-6669 (H)

Ojibseau Chapter (#255): John Welter, 204 E. Grand Ave., P.O. Box 358, Eau Claire, WI 54702 (715) 832-3494 (O); (715) 832-7028 (H)

Shaw-Paca Chapter (#381): Bill

Weatherwax, N12090 CTH "DD", Clintonville, WI 54929 (715) 823-5341 (H)

Southeastern WI Chapter (#078): Jon P. Christiansen, 237 Aster Lane, Mequon, WI 53092 (414) 241-5220 (H)

Southern WI Chapter (#061): David Ogletree, 2661 Milwaukee St., Madison, WI 53704 (608) 246-4227 (H)

Wild Rivers Chapter (#415): Paul Gilbert, RR 1, Box 24, Cable, WI 54821 (715) 798-3218 (H)

Wisconsin River Valley Chapter (#395): Herb Hintze, 629 Hamilton St., Wausau, WI 54401 (715) 842-1365 (H)

Wolf River Chapter (#050): Herb Buettner, N4297 Buettner Road, White Lake, WI 54491 (715) 882-8612

Changing address? Do it right!

If you are changing your address and still want to continue receiving your magazines, newspapers and chapter newsletters from TROUT UNLIMITED, you will need to communicate to T.U. about the changes.

There are some "do's" and "don't's" in this matter. The biggest "don't" is this: **Don't send changes of address to the State Council!!** What you must do is send that change of address notice to:

Trout Unlimited Membership Service Center

14101 Parke Long Court
Chantilly, VA 22021-1645

When you send that change to T.U. National, not to State Council, be sure that you include with your name and address your T.U. identification number. That is the eight-digit computer number on the upper left-hand corner of your address label that is on your T.U. membership card and/or your chapter and State Council newsletters.

Also...if you are moving to a diffe-

rent city and wish to become a member of the chapter closest to your new home, you should make note to National T.U. that you wish to change chapters.

You should identify both the chapter from which you are moving and the chapter into which you're transferring by identifying both by name and by chapter I.D. number. See the chapter directory on page 2 for that information.

As an example, if you are moving from Madison to Eau Claire and wish to change chapters, you inform T.U. National of your new address (include your T.U. member I.D. number!) and then note that you wish to be transferred from the Southern Wisconsin Chapter (#061) to the Ojibseau Chapter (#255).

Any questions, call Mitch Bent at (715) 524-5886. But...do not send address changes to him. They will not be accepted!

T.U. National's Phone Number:
(703) 522-0200 * FAX (703) 284-9400.

Natural Resources Board Directory

Herb Behnke, Chairman
Rt. 4 Box 68
Shawano, WI 54166

Trygve Solberg, Vice-chairman
Box 50
Minocqua, WI 54458

Neal Schneider, Secretary
Box 71
Janesville, WI 53545

Betty Jo Nelsen
2640 E. Newton Ave.
Shorewood, WI 53211

Mary Jane Nelson
W6432 Hwy. D
Holmen, WI 54636

James Tiefenthaler
450 N. Sunny Slope Rd.
Suite 280
Brookfield, WI 53003

Steve Willett
Box 89
Phillips, WI 54455

Wisconsin T.U. Chapter meeting times, locations

Aldo Leopold: When needed or called; at Beaver Dam Conservation Club, CTH "G", Beaver Dam.

Antigo: Not listed.

Blackhawk: Third Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at UW-Rock County Campus (South Building).

Central Wisconsin: Board meetings at Tilly's in Wautoma on second Monday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

Coulee Region: Not given.

Fox Valley: Third Thursday of the month, 7:30 p.m., at The Forester Club, Spencer St., Appleton.

Frank Hornberg Chapter: Second Thursday of the month, 7:00 p.m. at Shooter's Supper Club, Hwys. 51 & 54, Plover.

Green Bay: First Thursday of September, October, November, January, February, March and April at Maricque's, 1517 University Ave., Green Bay at 7:30 p.m. May picnic/meeting at the Brown County Reforestation Camp. December Christmas/awards dinner at site to be determined. No chapter meetings June-Aug.

Kiap-TU-Wish: First Wednesday of the month at The Hudson House in Hudson. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.; meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Lakeshore: Second Monday of the month, 7:30 p.m. at The Club Bil-Mar, Old Hwy. 141, Manitowoc.

Marinette County: First Tuesday

of the month, 7:00 p.m., at The Dome, 751 University Drive, Marinette.

Harry Nohr: Not given.

Northwoods: Second Thursday of the month, 7:30 p.m., at Valley First National Bank (Community Room), Stevens at Davenport Streets, Rhinelander.

Oconto River Watershed: First Wednesday of the month, 7:45 p.m., at the Lone Oak Gun Club, Hwy. 32 North, Gillett.

Ojibseau: Second Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m., at the Eau Claire Rod & Gun Club, Eau Claire.

Shaw-Paca: Third Thursday of the month, 8:00 p.m., at the Corner Bar, County "M", in Pella (Shawano County).

Southeastern Wisconsin: Fourth Tuesday of the month. Dinner at 6:00 p.m., meeting at 7:30 p.m. At the Bavarian Wursthau, 8310 Appleton Ave., Milwaukee.

Southern Wisconsin: Second Tuesday of the month, dinner at 6:00 p.m., meeting at 7:00 p.m. At the Maple Tree Restaurant, McFarland.

Wild Rivers: Not given.

Wisconsin River Valley: Not given.

Wolf River: At various times. Call Herb Buettner (715-882-8612) for information.

WISCONSIN TROUT

is the official publication of the Wisconsin Council of Trout Unlimited. Issues are distributed to all members of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited chapters. Publication and distribution dates are the first weeks of January, April, July and October. Deadlines for articles and advertisements are the 10th of December, March, June and September, respectively. Advertising rate sheet available upon request. Contributions and letters-to-the-editor are welcomed and encouraged. Submit articles and returnable photos or slides (color or black-and-white) to editor for consideration.

ADVERTISING RATES:

4 to 10 column inches (*)	\$5.00/column inch
11 to 24 column inches (24" = quarter page)	\$4.50/column inch
25 to 48 column inches (48" = half page)	\$4.00/column inch
49 or more column inches	\$3.50/column inch

(*) A column inch is one inch high by one-and-five eighths inches wide. All advertising must be accompanied by checks payable to: **WISCONSIN TROUT UNLIMITED**. For prepayment of a full year of advertising (4 issues), deduct 5 percent. Advertisers who submit prepayment may alter the advertisement content from issue-to-issue as they wish.

Send all advertising and payments to: **TROUT UNLIMITED, c/o Mitchell Bent, 935 S. Union St., Shawano, WI 54166, phone (715) 524-5886.**

Send all change of address notices to: **Trout Unlimited Membership Service Center, 14101 Parke Long Court, Chantilly, VA 22021-1645. Include your T.U. identification number with all notices of address change.**

Mitch Bent, Editor
935 South Union St.
Shawano, WI 54166
(715) 524-5886

Wisconsin Trout Unlimited Council Officers

Forrest Grulke, Chairman
11 Schmidt Ave., #6
Rothschild, WI 54474

Dave Johnson, Secretary
143 Water St. #108
Berlin, WI 54923

G. Topf Wells, Vice-Chairman
4914 Marathon Drive
Madison, WI 53705

Ward Cox
N18690 Ten Acre Rd.,
Goodman, WI. 54175

Letters to the Editor

Early season re-visited

Editor, Wisconsin Trout:

Here it is another spring and once again I am pecking away on my typewriter to discuss the early trout season in southwest Wisconsin with the readers.

That this question can turn up again at the spring Conservation Congress hearings - in spite of being rejected at the last three hearings - says a lot about how things are done in the Conservation Congress and the Department of Natural Resources. Having said that, I guess we will just have to pick up the old club and give them another whack, and hope that sooner or later they'll get the message.

I would urge all T.U. members to exercise their sense of fair play and follow the lead of the Wisconsin T.U. State Council on this matter. Vote to end the early trout season in southwest Wisconsin, and then join the effort to come up with something that is fairer and thus better. The time has come to spread out the pressure on the resource,

and we must work together on this.

I must agree with suggestions made by Steve Born at the January State Council meeting on an "early" trout season (i.e., opening prior to the first Saturday in May) in an area that is larger than what now exists. The problem we face is where to draw the line.

I would suspect we could get a lot of agreement on Highway 11 being the boundary line (running from Racine to Dubuque, Iowa), and I suspect that a Highway 2 boundary line (Hurley to Superior) would meet a lot of approval, too. The problem will come in picking something in between.

We need to work together on this, but the first step is pretty obvious: we need to vote once again to end the current early trout season.

Sincerely,
Charles T. Steudel
P.O. Box 205
Highland, WI 53543

Agrees with Born

Editor, Wisconsin Trout:

Mr. Born is right with his proposal (to change the format of Wisconsin's inland trout fishing season). I'm sorry the argument had to be so divisive.

Let's make it happen. We'll all be

better off, not to mention the resource.

Sincerely,
David Fritz
13528 Old G
Montfort, WI 53569

Coaster brook trout

Editor, Wisconsin Trout:

The Winter, 1994, issue of *Wisconsin Trout* was loaded with interesting information on Wisconsin trout. The one on "Coaster" brook trout by Lee Newman was especially interesting to me.

I have a copy of *Outdoor Life*, July, 1934, that you might find interesting. It has the account of a fishing trip to St. Ignace Island by the author, Brems Forest, his friend (Watts Richmond) and guides Dan Morriseau and John Hardy. Forest mentioned in the article that two or three six- or seven-pounders and an occasional eight-pounder were caught there every year in the 1930's. The party camped on the island for a week.

Forest tells of their most thrilling trip to a spot just off Locomotive Rock, where they caught two trout with a combined weight of 11 pounds. At the place they had the most action, about 400 yards from shore, the bottom was

covered with rocks and boulders.

All his action was on flies. His partner, Richmond, cast spoons and had no action. There was a hatch on, which probably accounted for the lack of interest by the trout in spoons.

A friend of mine used to go up to Nipigon and fish coasters around St. Ignace Island every year in the early 1940's and 1950's. They trolled from a good-sized boat for their coasters.

I don't get to any meetings of T.U., but I do enjoy *Wisconsin Trout*. I write for *Badger Sportsman* and *Midwest Outdoors*.

Sincerely yours,
Dr. Noland A. Eidsmoe
515 W. Marshall St.
Rice Lake, WI 54868-1570

Ed. note: Thanks for the re-print of the 1934 *Outdoor Life* article. While we won't run it here, we'll keep it on file for future reference when more information about the coaster brookies becomes available.

"Free Fishing" days

The states of Wisconsin and Michigan will once again hold "Free Fishing" days in order to commemorate National Fishing Week which runs June 5-11.

In Wisconsin, the "Free Fishing" day will be Sunday, June 5. On that day, residents and non-residents may fish all Wisconsin waters without any need of possessing a license or trout stamp(s). Also, admission to state

parks is free that day.

Michigan's annual "Free Fishing Weekend" will be held June 11-12. As in Wisconsin, no license or stamp are needed by residents and non-residents to fish on those two days.

All other fishing regulations, including size and creel limits, will apply in both states on their respective "Free Fishing" days.

Wisconsin home to all kinds of fish

By Lee Kernen

In 1983, Dr. George Becker wrote a book entitled "Fishes of Wisconsin," in which he tallied 157 fish species in Wisconsin waters. Today we have a few new species, but we also have a few less.

When thinking about Wisconsin fishes, one pictures muskie, walleye, trout, bluegill, and many other game species. There are, however, more than one hundred fish species in Wisconsin waters that most people are not aware of, such as small members of the perch family called darters. Darters are among the most beautiful species on earth. Are they important? Why should we be concerned about them?

Each species of fish is important in its own right. In the web of life, each has its place to fill - called a "niche." We commonly hear the term biodiversity used to describe this variety of life forms and their associated functions. Today, maintaining biodiversity can be a difficult task, and we are seeing our fish diversity being altered in several ways.

One way is by the introduction, whether intentionally or accidentally, of exotic species - species not native to Wisconsin or naturally occurring here. Exotic species pose such a big threat because many of them do not have natural predators. As a result, they can multiply out of control with nothing to stop them. This also allows them to out-compete many native species and to take over larger portions of the food web, weakening the chain by eliminating links.

Carp, introduced more than 100 years ago, have had a horrible influence on our native fish. More recently, the ruffe, a European exotic fish that has established itself in Western Lake Superior, could also be big trouble. As this species begins to reach other waters, it may pose an even more severe threat to both native game and nongame fish species.

A second major way that fish diversity is being altered is through extinction and declining numbers. Extinction has been around as long as there has been life, but humans are affecting this natural process and greatly increasing the rate at which extinctions are occurring.

When species go extinct, the web is weakened. Many species are facing declines due to habitat loss and pollution. For example, poor land use fills gravel beds with silt. This reduces the microhabitat - small specific habitats found within the larger habitat type - for many small fish species and eliminates spawning beds for game and nongame species of fish alike.



Lee Kernen

Pollution from agricultural and industrial waste can harm fish and the animal food base they require. Fertilizers and other chemicals continue to alter habitat and fish health.

So, how does Wisconsin stand with its fish species? We have already lost at least eight species of fish, four of which were deepwater ciscoes that used to live only in Lake Michigan.

Of the 157 species remaining in Wisconsin, nine are endangered and 11 more are threatened species. This means that nine species are facing local extirpation (loss from Wisconsin waters) and, unless something is done, 11 more could be facing the same fate in the future.

Those nine include such interesting sounding fish species as the skipjack herring, crystal darter, bluntnose darter, starhead top minnow, gravel chub, pallid shiner, striped shiner, slender madtom, and the goldeye.

What will it take for us to realize the importance of fish and other species? We must continue to recognize the many values beyond food that these animals have for the human race. Besides their role in maintaining healthy ecosystems, they have many utilitarian values.

Plant and animal byproducts are being used for medical treatments to fight cancer and to build heart valves. We have known about these species for hundreds of years and are now only realizing the secrets that they hold, and potential uses for them are endless. We cannot allow them to disappear, because we may forever lose the values associated with them.

Aldo Leopold said it best, "the first rule of intelligent tinkering is to save all of the parts."

I hope we don't lose anymore of our "fishy" parts. Please support the Department of Natural Resources in its quest to conserve Wisconsin's biodiversity. For more information contact: Lee Kernen (608) 267-0796.

FLY FISHING SCHOOL

MAY 21 & 22, 1994

Dave Ruetz, Western Guide

Wayne Anderson, Wolf River Tape Author
(Limited Enrollment)

(Brochure available) - Write: Bob Talasek
6442 N. Atwahl Drive
Glendale, WI 53209
414-352-6483

WOLF RIVER FLY SHOP

N4216 Rocky Rips Road
WhiteLake, WI 54491-9728
(Bob Talasek - 715-882-5941)

Shop Opens April 30, 1994
Fri.-Sat.-Sun. 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
(Trout Flies and Fishing Equipment)

(CORRECTION FROM LAST ISSUE)

Trout Unlimited chapters

The T.U. National office has reminded all chapters and State Councils about new rules promulgated by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) regarding acknowledgement of donations (either cash or merchandise) made to Trout Unlimited and all other non-profit organizations.

The purpose of the new IRS rules is to capture tax revenues that have eluded the U.S. Treasury due to over-reporting of charitable deductions by donors. The new rules now require donors of \$250 or more to have a written acknowledgement from the receiving charitable organization; a cancelled check is no longer sufficient by itself.

Also, the new rules address situations where donors receive something of tangible value in return for their donation.

Following is a summary of the new rules:

1. Gifts of \$250 or more in value - For any single gift of money or property with a fair market value of \$250 or more, the chapter or Council must promptly provide the donor with a written acknowledgement of the donation. This may be a "thank-you" note or a less personal form of acknowledgement. If the donation is money, the acknowledgement must also state the amount donated. If a chapter or Council receives a gift of securities, the acknowledgement should identify the securities and the number of shares donated.

Non-monetary donations sometimes involve items which don't have a readily ascertainable fair market value. The new rules do not require chapters and Councils to estimate the value of such contributions. But the items donated must be described in acknowledgements, and value may be estimated if the donated item has a readily ascertainable fair market value.

If the item donated does not have a readily ascertainable fair market value, chapters and Councils should avoid "guess-timating" the value, because they may run afoul of IRS rules on false or misrepresenting statements to donors. Unless there has been an arrangement to obtain a qualified appraisal on the donor's behalf, the donor should be responsible for determining the fair market value of the item donated.

2. "Quid pro quo" gifts of more than \$75 - This situation is more complicated. A "quid pro quo" situation arises whenever a donor receives something of tangible value in exchange for a donation. One type of situation results where a donor receives a book or fishing tackle item, for example, for making a donation. The other type is where a person buys an item in an auction, where the fair market value is seldom the same as the auction price.

In either situation, IRS rules require chapters and Councils to furnish the donor or auction purchaser with a written statement that only the portion of the price above the fair market value of the item received is deductible (for donations above \$75, that is).

Since these items are usually received by chapters and Councils at discounted prices, the rules state that the items should be reported at their fair market value, not the price at which they were obtained.

Failure to comply with the new rules have two negative consequences:

1. The chapter or Council may incur a monetary penalty; and
2. The donor will be unable to deduct the value of his or her donation, which may make that person unlikely to donate to T.U. in the future.

The new rules do not apply to raffles, as raffles are already subject to other IRS rules that prohibit participants

from deducting the cost of raffle tickets.

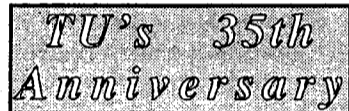
Any additional questions on these new rules should be asked of local accountants or by calling T.U. National at (703) 522-0200.

Embrace-A-Stream funding

Steve Born, chairman of T.U. National's "Embrace-A-Stream" committee, reports that nearly \$90,000 was awarded by the committee at its February meeting in Chicago for projects involving preservation and restoration of trout streams, research pertinent to the coldwater resource and education efforts.

TU ANNOUNCES NEW MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

TU is initiating an unprecedented membership-recruitment drive commemorating TU's 35th anniversary. Last year, TU's network of 435 chapters recruited 5,000 new members. In honor of its 35th Anniversary Drive, TU challenges the fishing-tackle industry to match that 5,000 new member figure. TU hopes to work with the fishing industry to recruit 10,000 "complete anglers" between February 15 and September 1, 1994.



"A truly 'complete' angler must be concerned about the threats to America's coldwater fisheries," explained Kenneth Mendez, TU's Chief Operating Officer. "We all have a vested interest in the future of the resource. I hope every tackle shop and guide will join us in helping safeguard that future."

Members of fishing-related industries -- manufacturers, retailers, mail order businesses, and guides -- are invited to call TU's toll free number (800) 834-2419 to request a recruiting kit. Interested parties may also write Trout Unlimited Membership Services Center, 14101 Parke Long Court, Chantilly, VA 22021-1645, ATTN: 35th Anniversary Contest.

Every business that brings in at least 25 new members will be recognized in a special section in *Trout*, TU's quarterly publication, and recruiters signing up 50, 100, or more will be singled out for special recognition in the magazine. At

Trout Unlimited's National Convention, slated for September 21-25 in Bozeman, Montana, special awards will be presented to the participants who bring in the greatest number of members.

"This is an important year for fisheries conservation and for TU," explained Ken Mendez. "There are many battles yet to be fought, and we are going to need the help of every angler to win."

TU MEMBERSHIP REACHES A NEW HIGH

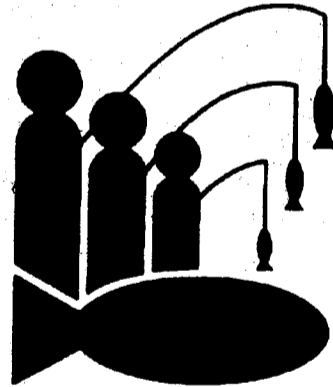
As of December 1993, TU membership soared to 68,094 members. The following is a breakdown of TU membership by state:

Alabama	144
Alaska	537
Arizona	796
Arkansas	209
California	5,422
Colorado	4,970
Connecticut	2,121
Delaware	183
Florida	529

Georgia	1,415
Hawaii	41
Idaho	957
Illinois	1,211
Indiana	315
Iowa	161
Kansas	206
Kentucky	394
Louisiana	78
Maine	887
Maryland	1,781
Massachusetts	2,460
Michigan	3,684
Minnesota	1,292
Mississippi	31
Missouri	745
Montana	1,542
Nebraska	106
Nevada	314
New Hampshire	850
New Jersey	2,436
New Mexico	408
New York	5,196
North Carolina	2,062
North Dakota	22
Ohio	1,031
Oklahoma	299
Oregon	1,081
Pennsylvania	6,474
Rhode Island	369
South Carolina	548
South Dakota	71
Tennessee	1,044
Texas	1,377
Utah	535
Vermont	795
Virginia	2,162
Washington	3,513
West Virginia	753
Wisconsin	2,336
Wyoming	914
Foreign & Others	1,287

PROBLEMS WITH MEMBERSHIP? PLEASE CALL

According to a recent survey of TU's regional vice presidents, membership complaints have declined significantly. The National TU office is constantly striving to improve the quality of membership services. If you are experiencing any membership problems, contact Wendy Reed at (703) 284-9421 or 1-800-834-2419.

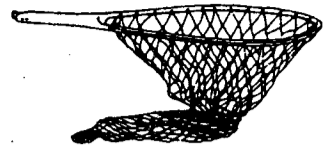


MERCHANDISE REQUESTS

Fly tackle manufacturers need your help! A major topic at the fall meeting of the North American Fly-Tackle Trade Association (NAFTA) was how the Association can accommodate the enormous number of requests from organizations like Trout Unlimited for donated or discounted merchandise to support fundraising events.

The problem is two-fold. First, the increase of conservation organizations, outdoor and sports groups, and fishing clubs has driven the numbers of requests received by the manufacturers to an unmanageable level. Second, with this growth the manufacturers can no longer discern between legitimate requests and those that might not be appropriate.

NAFTA members want to continue to support Trout Unlimited; however, they



must implement controls to more effectively address requests for donations.

NAFTA is developing guidelines to assist manufacturers in handling merchandise solicitations, and the Association members are asking for TU's help. In the future, the manufacturers will deal directly with the national offices of the conservation organizations. This will allow us to work out the most beneficial product procurement programs possible while taking an enormous workload off the manufacturers. Chapters will be expected to work directly with TU National to procure merchandise. NAFTA members do, however, encourage TU chapters to continue to work with their local merchants and dealers to procure merchandise.

Effective immediately, TU National and the members of NAFTA request that chapters discontinue the practice of directly contacting fly tackle manufacturers to request merchandise. To support chapters' product requirements, on December 15 we will be mailing a copy of the 1994 National Banquet Catalog to every chapter. We have included a wide range of merchandise to support chapter needs. In the future, the catalog should be your first step in procuring merchandise. NAFTA still encourages chapters to deal directly with local dealers, to supplement their fundraising efforts.

TU National will continue to work with the members of NAFTA on your behalf to procure merchandise and make it available to you at the most advantageous cost possible. You can help by letting us know about any merchandise that you would like to see added to our product line.

If you have any questions regarding these guidelines, please contact Terry Austin at (703) 284-9411.

LEAVE IT THE WAY YOU'D LIKE TO HAVE FOUND IT...

People tend to be more careful about littering an area that is kept clean. Carry a plastic grocery bag with you. Don't hesitate to pick up litter along the trail [or stream-- Ed. note] and deposit into the nearest trash bin. Here's a list of how long commonly discarded items take to decompose:

Paper	2-4 months
Orange peels	6 months
Wool socks	1-5 years
Milk cartons, coffee cups	5 years
Filter cigarettes	10-12 years
Plastic bags	10-20 years
Disposable diapers	10-20 years
Leather shoes	25-40 years
Nylon fabric	30-40 years
Sneaker sole	50-80 years
Tin cans	80-100 years
Aluminum cans & tabs	200-400 years
Plastic six-pack holder	450 years
Glass bottles	1 mil. years
Styrofoam	indefinitely
Plastic bottles	indefinitely
Monofilament line	indefinitely

Source: David Diligent, Cornell Cooperative Extension

[Reprinted from *Riffles*, the newsletter of the East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited--Editor]

reminded about IRS rules

FISHING PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

The National TU office has limited quantities of two publications which detail fishing opportunities on National Forest lands and National Wildlife Refuges. The publications are entitled *Fishing our National Forests*, published by the U.S. Forest Service and *Your Guide To Fishing on the National Wildlife Refuge System*, published by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. TU members can obtain one copy of each by contacting: Trout Unlimited Customer Services Center, 4101 Parke Long Court, Suite U, Chantilly, VA 22021-1645 ATTN: Carol Ruckle; or by calling Carol at (703) 284-9425.

WHERE DO I FIND IT? DEPT.

Need to find a water quality monitoring test kit? Or aquatic sampling nets, water temperature monitoring devices, and environmental education materials? Contact the following companies for a catalog:

Carolina Biological Supply Company, 2700 York Road, Burlington, NC 27215; or call 1-800-547-1733; FAX: (503) 656-4208.

LaMotte Company, P.O. Box 329, Chestertown, MD 21620; or call 1-800-344-3100 or (410) 778-3100; FAX: (410) 778-6394.



Ben Meadows Company, 3589 Broad Street, Atlanta, GA 30341; or call 1-800-241-6401; FAX: 1-800-628-2068.

Hach Company, P.O. Box 389, Loveland, CO 80539; or call 1-800-227-4224; FAX: (303) 669-2932.

GAO RELEASES FISHERIES MANAGEMENT REPORT

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's administrative costs for the Sport Fish Restoration Program [also known as the *Wallop-Breaux Program*] increased 45 percent between 1989 and 1992, a \$3 million hike that agency officials couldn't justify, the General Accounting Office (GAO) said. The report comes as the agency is considering an overhaul in the way it manages the program, which provides grants to states to improve sport fisheries. To obtain a copy of the report, *Fisheries Management Administration of the Sport Fish Restoration Program*, RCED-94-4, call (202) 512-6000.

WETLANDS GET NEW BOSS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Soil Conservation Service (SCS) officially took over as the lead federal agency that determines which agricultural lands are subject to federal wetlands regulations. The Clinton Administration has chosen Paul W. Johnson, an Iowa farmer, to head the agency.

A memorandum of agreement between the USDA, Interior Department, Army Corps of Engineers, and the Environmental Protection Agency is designed to provide more certainty for farmers while streamlining and improving joint wetlands regulatory efforts.

Under the agreement, farmers will be able to rely on SCS wetlands maps to comply with wetlands regulations under both the Swampbuster provisions of the Farm Bill and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. While the SCS long has been delineating wetlands under the Farm Bill, the 404 program typically required the Corps or EPA to perform an additional delineation before wetlands work permits were issued.



ANNUAL MEETING AWARDS PROGRAM

Submissions for the 1994 TU Awards Program are now being accepted. The national office requires five copies of each nomination submission. The deadline for 1994 awards nominations is May 15, 1994. [May 15 falls on a Sunday this year. Please make sure that you have your nominations postmarked by Saturday, May 14--Ed.] Send your nominations to: Trout Unlimited, Suite 310, 1500 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22209, ATTN: Loretta Pogorzelski. If you have questions or need a copy of the awards criteria, call Loretta at (703) 284-9403.

TU MEMBERSHIP INCENTIVE PROGRAM

TU now has a program to help chapters and councils sign up new members at trade, sport, and conservation shows. TU has several premiums for chapters and councils to use as incentives to entice people to join TU on the spot. The cost to chapters is \$3.00 per premium. The three premiums are:

Fly Fishing!#@%&#! is a fly fishing cartoon book by John Troy. This version is a special edition made for TU complete with TU logo on the back cover.

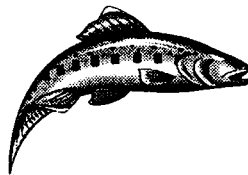
TU Thermal Mug is a heavy-duty travel thermo mug featuring the TU logo in full color. Wide base with unique storage compartment holds 16 ozs. of hot or cold drink--also holds a 12 oz. can in perfect drinking position. [See the ordering insert for TU Field Equipment in the Winter 1994 issue of Trout magazine for a preview. -Ed.]

Trout Tunes and Other Fishing Madness is an audio cassette collection of 11 great tunes by the Trout Brothers (members of TU). The tape features such hits as *Crazy For Dem Trout*, *Tricorythodes Tango*, and *Save The Water*. In Dolby.

To order any of these premiums for your chapter's sports or conservation show, contact Vince DiNova at (703) 284-9424.

IMPORTANT: WILD TROUT V UPDATE

The dates for TU's Wild Trout V Symposium have been changed. The symposium, originally scheduled for September 19-20 (immediately preceding the 1994 TU Annual Meeting in



Bozeman, MT), has been rescheduled for September 26-27, immediately following the Annual Meeting. Watch for a formal announcement on Wild Trout V in the coming weeks.

ACTIONLINE

Does your chapter or council have a newsworthy project or program to share with TU'ers nationwide? Then submit an article to *ACTIONLINE*, the grassroots reporting section of *Trout Magazine*.

Please send typed articles, complete with photographs and a name and phone number of a contact in case we need additional information. Send your submissions to: Trout Unlimited, 1500 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 310, Arlington, VA 22209 ATTN: *ACTIONLINE* -- Jennifer Lee. The deadline for the Summer issue of *Trout Magazine* is April 20, 1994.

TU STATIONERY

A number of TU chapters are still using TU stationery with the old 501 Church Street address at the bottom. Please discontinue use of this stationery immediately. National TU still has a small supply of the stationery with the 800 Follin Lane address on it which we will continue to use until depleted. However, chapters and councils can now order TU stationery with no address so they can print their own address on the stationery. To order the address-free stationery, contact Carol Ruckle, (703) 284-9425. Please specify that you want the address-free stationery. TU stationery and TU envelopes (letter size with color TU logo) are available in quantities (reams) of 500 and cost \$20.00 per ream

TROUT FISHING OR STOCKING BROOK - BROWN - RAINBOW NO LICENSE TO FISH

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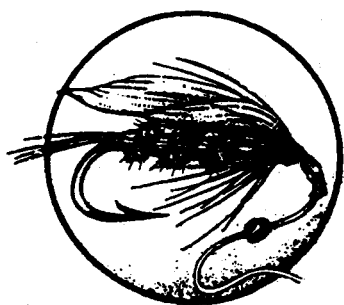
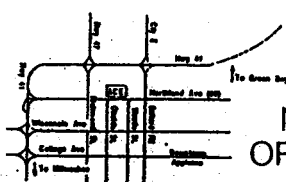
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Council discusses regulation overhaul

At the January 29, 1994, meeting of the Wisconsin State Council of Trout Unlimited, the Council spent a considerable part of the meeting reviewing the inland trout fishing regulations with an eye for suggestions to modify the current classifications.

This came about, because the Department of Natural Resources is going through the process, a year behind schedule albeit, of doing its own planned review of the effectiveness of the five-tiered trout rule classification scheme.

The discussion at the January Council meeting was preliminary in nature. The Council, at its December, 1993, Executive Committee meeting, had proposed as a basis for discussion modifications to the existing trout regulation/season format. It provided a starting point from which chapter delegates could hear the pros and cons of the proposed modifications, make additional suggestions for change and then take these ideas back to their respective chapters for further discussion.

It is the intent of the State Council to produce, at its May 21st meeting at Fort McCoy, a position statement on regulation and season format changes that will then become the position statement for the entire Wisconsin T.U. Council on this matter.

Listed here are the general titles of the topics involved in this discussion. Under each topic will be arguments or concerns stating the pros and cons of each suggestion for change.

Watershed approach to regulation

There was general consensus at the January meeting that trout management and regulations should be developed on a watershed basis. As an example of the need to incorporate knowledge of a watershed into regulations, one speaker noted that a "special regulation" designed to produce trophy trout may not work if the DNR does not know when or where trout move within a watershed.

In making the recommendation that a watershed perspective become a more important factor in developing regulations than it has been to date, the Council recognizes that the DNR will need time and additional resources to implement such an approach.

Early season/ Earlier opener

The Council's position on the current "early" trout season (Jan. 1 - the Friday prior to the general fishing season opener) is that it should be terminated. While many T.U. members enjoy the early season fishing opportunities and may not be harvesting many trout themselves, other anglers do put heavy pressure on the resource, and the issue has become divisive through its persistence.

The early season raises unresolved questions over the fairness insofar as which counties are included in the early season zone and what impact the early - and thus longer - season has on trout, especially on the population of larger fish.

If the early season is cancelled, should we look at opening the trout season in some southern section of the state (below Highway 23 from Sheboygan to La Crosse was used as an example) at some time in late March or early April? Proponents argue that an earlier opener in the southern part of the state, and one in an expanded geographical area compared to the current eight southwestern county area, will enable anglers to enjoy more trout fishing opportunities.

Also, say the proponents, if that opening is set late enough so as to avoid

disruption of the trout fry that are forming in trout redds from the past season's spawning activity, we can have a season that will not harm the trout or the web of life in which they live.

The only questions are: 1) when is that "safe date", and 2) does it exist? We must seek input from fish managers on this point.

Opponents of this idea point out that only southern Wisconsin spring creeks will offer earlier fishing opportunities; thus, the early opener will still cause disproportionate angling pressure on that part of the state. Some add that if the regulations recognize this fact by allowing an early opener only in the southern part of the state, the DNR will create another regionally split season, which will increase complexity in an already complex situation.

The Five Categories

Discussions on the five categories currently used by the DNR to regulate angler harvest on trout waters or sections thereof centered over concerns about streams in a chapter's area. Many of these concerns might best be addressed by creating a dialogue between the chapter and its closest fish manager, rather than at the May Council meeting.

In any event, the category discussions were:

Category 1

(10 trout/day, no size limit)

The DNR created this category with the notion of applying it to small streams that supposedly held only small, stunted trout which would not grow, regardless of the extent of trout harvest from those streams.

Opponents of the use of this category think it should be abolished for several reasons. One, they say a 10 trout daily limit is too much and is anachronistic considering the number of people fishing these days and the limits of the resource. It also legitimizes, they say, an attitude toward trout that lets anglers think in terms of "meat fishing".

Also, many of these streams supposedly having "stunted" trout are actually nursery areas for small trout that were spawned from previous seasons and are maturing in the small feeder tributaries until such time as they can fend for themselves in the bigger waters into which the tributaries flow.

And in this vein, opponents argue, comes the concept of "watershed management". Trout from larger streams with perhaps more stringent harvest rules will migrate toward smaller tributary streams during the course of summer both to seek more livable thermal regimes and to stake out sites for spawning. When these trout move from an area that has a more restrictive creel limit to one with a liberal 10 fish per day limit, where does the "protection" for these fish go?

By eliminating the Category 1 type, the Category 2 (five trout/day, seven-inch size limit) would become the standard regulation for all waters not designated otherwise. This would give added protection to the resource as well as simplify and reduce the costs of the printed regulations, say Category 1 opponents.

Proponents of the Category 1 usage state that there are indeed small streams that can produce only large numbers of small fish and can sustain the generous 10 trout/day creel limit. If some small Category 1 streams are indeed refuges or nursery areas, Category 1 proponents state, then these streams should be identified and changed from Category 1 to other more restrictive harvest categories.

Regardless of the biological information, many T.U.'ers might think that a 10 trout daily creel limit devalues

trout. The question over use of Category 1 may or may not center over values as opposed to biology, assuming it is biology that is used to establish a Category 1 stream classification.

Category 3 (three trout/day, nine-inch size limit) and Category 4

(three trout/day, eight-inch limit on brook trout, 12 inches on browns and rainbows)

There seems to be interest in simplifying and condensing these two seemingly redundant categories into one.

The two categories had distinct purposes. Category 3 was intended to apply to streams that receive substantial inputs of hatchery-raised trout. The three fish, nine inch size limit rule was designed to spread out the harvest of such fish and enable anglers to catch decent-sized fish in such streams.

Category 4 was applied to those streams capable of producing larger-sized wild trout, because it was thought that such a category would protect stocks of wild trout and improve the quality of angling.

It was suggested that it might be wise to mesh Categories 3 and 4 into one single category calling for a three trout daily creel limit, with size limits of eight inches on brook trout and 10 inches on browns and rainbows.

Consideration of Categories 3 and 4 raised two other concerns: 1) In streams with Category 4 listings, where seven to 11 inch trout must be released (depending upon species), should angling methods be restricted to single-hook, artificial-only lures and flies in order to lessen mortality rates on released fish, given the scientifically-determined higher mortality rates on

fish hooked by anglers using bait? What is the role of hatcheries in Wisconsin's trout management and regulations? If Categories 3 and 4 are combined, will fish managers request that hatcheries produce 10-inch brown trout for stocking in "put-and-take" streams? Such fish are expensive to produce.

Regarding these concerns, the DNR and Wisconsin T.U. council likely have insufficient data on either subject to develop recommendations. The Council can, however, identify these issues as important and request that the DNR develop information and propose options.

Category 5

(Special regulation waters)

The Council strongly supports "Special Regulations". The Council asks the DNR to do two things regarding Category 5 waters: 1) closely monitor existing Category 5 waters, and modify them if research indicates that changes are needed to achieve the goal of the "special regulations"; and 2) aggressively pursue development of additional special regulation, Category 5 waters where they will likely benefit the trout resource and trout anglers.

And, again, the State Council strongly recommends that the DNR use a "watershed approach" perspective in any review or development of "special regulations".

This summarizes the Council's work to date on this complex subject. Again we urge chapters to discuss these matters and be prepared to have chapter representatives enunciate their chapters' concerns on this subject at the May 21 State Council meeting at Fort McCoy.

From the Chairman

By Forrest Grulke

The Wisconsin Trout Unlimited State Council meeting held January 29 in Stevens Point was one of the best attended Council meetings we've had in some time. I would like to thank all of the chapters that sent representatives to that meeting.

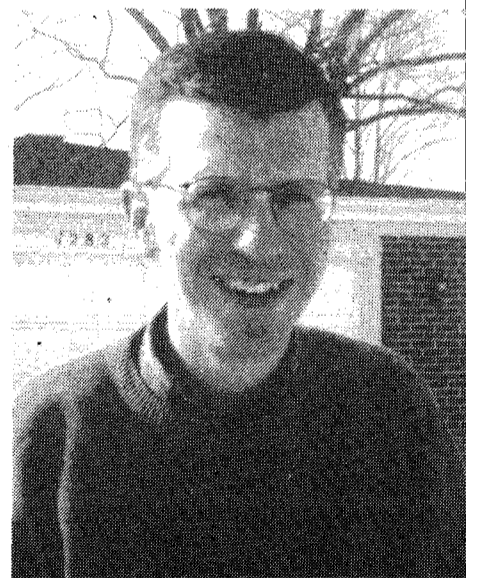
The good turnout certainly aided the Council in setting forth in its attempt to create a "consensus" position with regard to the planned review of the inland trout fishing regulations which is being done by the Department of Natural Resources.

At that Council meeting, there was a request to provide a "white paper" that listed proposed regulation changes being put forth by Council members, along with the pros and cons of those suggested changes. That "white paper" is detailed in another article in this issue of the paper.

As Council Chairman, I am asking chapters and their membership to review the ideas being offered by the Wisconsin T.U. Council, for we will be spending a lot of time at our next Council meeting--May 21 at Fort McCoy working to create a firm "consensus" position on the regulation review. AND...once this position is reached, it will become THE position for the entire Wisconsin T.U. State Council.

Thus, the next step in this process is to again make sure that we have strong chapter representation at that May 21 Council meeting at Fort McCoy. We need to have ALL chapters adequately represented at this important meeting.

Please make sure that your chapter has discussed and reviewed these sug-



Forrest Grulke
Wisconsin State Council
T.U. Chairman

gested changes so that your chapter's concerns may be addressed properly when we convene on May 21. If your chapter leadership has not indicated that it will be in attendance to represent your chapter's concerns on this and other Council matters, I would encourage you to attend the meeting so that at least someone from your chapter will be there.

Each chapter president will be receiving at a later date the time and location of the next Council meeting. If you want further information on the meeting, please feel free to call me.

Wisconsin T.U. gives support River Alliance forms

A new nonprofit advocacy group called the Wisconsin River Alliance formed in fall of 1993 to give Wisconsin's rivers a strong, active and unified voice through development of a formal, nonprofit river advocacy organization and support of local citizen-based river and watershed protection coalitions.

According to the group's Executive Director and organizer, Sara Johnson, "Wisconsin river protection efforts are often unrelated, and they focus on larger rivers rather than being part of a cohesive system effort. Individual programs have been designed to address specific needs of specific resources; their isolated successes will not guarantee long-term protection of the state's complex river systems."

Johnson also noted that many other states - such as Oregon - have experienced success in river protection through the organization of a river protection constituency that focuses on an integrated river protection effort.

In the near-term, the Wisconsin River Alliance will focus on a number of organizational development activities, such as: compiling an inventory of interest groups that are involved in current river protection efforts; developing a long-range funding plan; identifying key river protection issues in Wisconsin; and developing various resource materials needed during the organizational phase.

Longer-term, the Alliance intends to direct energy toward resource issues that include:

- *developing strategies and organizations for an omnibus Wisconsin wild and scenic rivers bill, including advocating the completion of a statewide rivers assessment;

- *coordinating and expanding FERC (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission) relicensing efforts by working with the Izaak Walton League, American Rivers, the National Hydropower Coalition and others;

- *develop strategy and begin organizing efforts to reform floodplain zoning ordinances;

- *serving as a catalyst for a change to a more comprehensive approach to river management within the Wisconsin

Department of Natural Resources.

Initial funding and organization support for the Wisconsin River Alliance came from a \$15,000 grant via River Network, a national nonprofit organization that works with groups active in river protection. River Network supports a range of river conservation groups at the state and regional levels, and works to link them together into a national network aimed at protecting the nation's rivers.

Wisconsin's program is being supported by the Network's "River Leadership Program", which works to develop new leadership and networks to protect rivers.

Additional funding to get the Wisconsin River Alliance underway has and will come from various statewide groups and individuals. The Wisconsin State Council of Trout Unlimited approved a contribution of \$2,000 to the Alliance at its January 29, 1994, meeting in Stevens Point.

The Alliance's Board of Directors includes several T.U. members, including Herb Buettner of the Wolf River T.U. chapter and Steve Born of Madison and past Council chairman.

Executive Director Johnson has a long background in natural resource involvement. She worked in public information and education on natural resource policy issues in Wisconsin for four years, and has six years experience with nonprofit groups, four of those years spent working for National Public Radio headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Johnson will be working half-time as Executive Director and half-time as an academic staff member at the University of Wisconsin on sustainable agriculture issues. From June of 1994, she will serve as a full-time Executive Director.

Johnson has a B.A. degree in journalism from the UW-Madison, and a Master of Science degree in environmental studies, also from UW-Madison.

Additional information on the Wisconsin River Alliance can be obtained by writing to the Alliance at: 122 State St., Suite 200, Madison, WI 53703; or, call (608) 257-2424.



State T.U. Council chairman Forrest Grulke (left) presents donation check of \$2,000 for the River Alliance of Wisconsin to Sara Johnson, the Alliance's executive director, at the Jan. 29 State Council meeting.

"Catch-and-release" committee develops mission statement

Wisconsin T.U.'s "Catch-and-release" committee, formed to educate anglers on the proper methods of safely releasing trout, met in mid-January to formulate strategies to achieve their goals.

The committee developed a "mission statement", that being to "assist Wisconsin Trout Unlimited in developing and implementing a multimedia educational program that will encourage all anglers in Wisconsin to properly use proven release techniques that will improve survival of trout that are caught and then released."

Long-term objectives and strategies discussed by the committee members included:

- *developing news releases that will be shared with chapters for distribution and with sports writers from the various media sources;

- *working with the DNR to "catch-and-release" information that is included in the regulations pamphlets;

- *producing pamphlets, cards and other information packets for distribution;

- *putting together a comprehensive article on "catch-and-release" techniques that includes scientific and ethical reasons for improperly releasing trout;

- *enlisting the support and endorse-

ment of the program from high-profile celebrities, leaders or business persons;

- *distributing materials at such events as sports shows, fairs, bait shops, restaurants, etc.;

- *create an attention-grabbing poster for information dissemination;

- *sponsoring or co-sponsoring a short video.

The genesis of the committee's formation and effort came about after retired DNR Coldwater Research Team leader Bob Hunt of Waupaca reported to the State Council that approximately 420,000 trout were being killed annually after being released by improper handling of fish and damage caused by careless removal of hooks. These numbers were determined prior to the implementation of the new inland trout fishing regulations, and Hunt said that accidental trout death due to improper releases would likely increase, since the new regs mandated much more release of trout than before.

Committee chairman Jim Hlaban of Neenah invites T.U. members to send suggestions and ideas they may have on informing the angling public on proper "catch-and-release" methods. He may be contacted by writing to him at 1421 Silverwood, Neenah, WI 54956. Or, call at (414) 722-4335.

BUY EXTRA TROUT STAMPS

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

YES! Please begin my one-year introductory membership in *Trout Unlimited* at the rate I have checked below. I understand my dues payment entitles me to all regular membership benefits, including a TU decal, personal membership card and quarterly issues of *Trout* magazine with *Action Line*.

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State _____ Zip _____

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Sponsor _____

Please check membership category:

- Regular membership (\$25)/ 3 years (\$65)
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- Sponsoring contributor (\$50)*
- Century contributor (\$100)*
- Conservator contributor (\$250)
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- Student membership (\$10)
- Business membership (\$100)*

Payment enclosed ** Please bill me

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Signature _____

Canadian memberships please add \$5/yr.; all other countries, add \$20/yr. All contributions over \$12 are tax deductible.

* Note special benefits for these membership categories.
** Make checks payable to *Trout Unlimited*.
Mail this postpaid card to join TU today!

Mail to: Trout Unlimited, 1500 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22209

Wisconsin Trout Unlir

ALDO LEOPOLD CHAPTER

During the past year, the chapter donated 11 copies of "The Way of a Trout" video to public libraries, and a survey indicates that these videos are being checked out for use on a regular basis (total checkouts number over 130). The chapter will buy seven more copies to enhance education projects in Dodge, Columbia and Sauk counties.

As shown in the accompanying photo, Gladys Parker, widow of long-time T.U. activist Lee Parker, donated a wide assortment of Lee's equipment to T.U. in his memory. Included were three rod wrapping machines and an assortment of rod-building materials. Mrs. Parker also donated stacks of Fly Fisherman, Trout and Fly Tyer magazines to Southern Wisconsin T.U. for their chapter auction in March.

ANTIGO CHAPTER

In lieu of its annual banquet, Antigo T.U. substituted a "Spring Fun Night" March 26th, complete with smoked fish, free beer, raffle prizes and a silent auction. A membership booth and video display were also set up, as well as a fly tying booth.

The chapter plans to hold its annual fishing day for kids on Antigo Lake in early June, with a picnic lunch and prizes available for the kids in addition to good fishing. And half-log replacement on the East Branch of the Eau Claire River north of Antigo will be done in April.

BLACKHAWK CHAPTER

No report

CENTRAL WISCONSIN CHAPTER

Cold weather forced cancellation of the chapter's work project on the West Branch White River in mid-January, but the chapter made up for it with a good turnout on Feb. 12 for a work effort that resulted in the streamside brushing of over 600 feet of bank along Caves Creek in Marquette County.

On Feb. 20th, the chapter held its annual "Fly Tying Funday and Tackle Swap" at the Oshkosh VFW Hall. Chapter member Tom Boario gave a slide presentation and talk on trout fishing waters in Yellowstone Park.

The chapter has again sponsored students for Department of Natural Resources Career Workshops and for the Timbertop Nature Adventure Camp. And Central Wisconsin T.U. voted to become a "Friend of Wisconsin T.U." via a \$100 donation to the Wisconsin T.U. State Council.

The chapter's annual banquet was held March 26th at the Oshkosh Hilton and Convention Center. Results of the banquet will be announced in the next issue of Wisconsin Trout.

Central Wisconsin's annual Fly Fishing School still has a few openings yet. The school will be held June 3-5 at Camp Hiwela near Wild Rose. Call Ted Houessa at (715) 258-0934 for information or class reservation.

Future work days for the chapter include April 16 on Emmons Creek and May 14 on Bowers Creek, both in Waushara County.

COULEE RIVER CHAPTER

With a re-invigorated chapter, Coulee Region is busy planning its third annual Conservation Banquet. The event will be held Wednesday, May 18, at Pogy's Catering in La Crosse. Tickets are \$25 each, and can be obtained by sending checks payable to Trout Unlimited to banquet chairman Dale Sevig, W5721 Sherwood Drive, La Crosse, WI 54601.

The chapter was saddened last fall when long-time member and UW-La

Crosse psychology professor Robert Jackson succumbed to a long struggle with cancer on Sept. 30, 1993. In Bob's memory, the chapter approved a \$200 donation at its December, 1993, meeting to go to the La Crosse Public Library for the purchase of trout fishing books.

At its January, 1994, meeting, Coulee Region T.U. approved a \$500 donation to the La Crosse Area DNR office for the purchase of a "chiller unit" for their mobile fish display, which is used to promote interest in fishery management at many area conservation functions throughout the year.

Also at the January chapter meeting, members indicated that they were opposed to the early trout season in its present form, but were in favor of some other type of "early" trout season.

The chapter is looking forward to co-hosting the May State Council meeting with Fox Valley T.U. on the 21st at Fort McCoy. This will mark the first chance ever for Coulee Region T.U. to host such a meeting.

FOX VALLEY CHAPTER

The chapter had a full schedule of activities during the winter months.

In January, DNR fish manager Al Niebur gave a presentation on the results of the study done last summer on the Little Wolf River watershed. He also discussed the strains of wild trout that are in Emmons Creek.

February 17th was the chapter's annual Fun Nite, and over 125 people showed up to see trout fishing displays and listen to several "mini-seminars". Door prizes were awarded, and four new members were signed up that night.

The chapter announced that it was the grateful recipient of a \$1,000 donation from Kimberly-Clark Corp. because of the many hours of volunteer labor expended by K-C employees who are members of Fox Valley T.U.

The chapter's March 17th meeting featured Larry Boraas speaking on Lake Michigan steelhead fishing.

March 12th was the date of the chapter's 21st annual banquet, held this year at the Country Aire. Results will be forthcoming in the Summer, 1994, issue of Wisconsin Trout.

Awards presented at the banquet were as follows: Appreciation Awards to Paul Ringeisen for helping at the Handicapped Fishing Outing; Mountain Bay Outfitters for financial support; George Schmidt for many years of banquet donations; Doug McDermott for providing outstanding auctioneering services at the annual banquet; Charlie Pond for years of banquet donations; and Todd Oestrich for many hours of service to T.U.

The chapter's annual Pat Howlett Award was presented this year to Jerry Unmuth for his many years of unselfish volunteering on a variety of T.U. projects.

And, 20-Year Plaques were presented to Jim Bayorgeon, R.C. Chamberlain, Dennis Grundman, Mike Kordus, Dr. Ross Mueller, Dale Peterson, John Shillinglaw and Cliff Shearing.

Chapter member Del Schwaller is organizing the chapter's annual "Fishing With Our Special Friends" (formerly the Handicapped Fishing Outing), which will be held on April 30th at the Maine Creek K & S Game Farm. The chapter will also stock trout for special-needs angler fishing in the Wheelchair Access Pond at the Gordon Buboltz Nature Center in Appleton in April.

The chapter will hold elections on April 21st, with chapter president Tom

Beyer stepping down after two years of service to Fox Valley T.U.

FRANK HORNBERG CHAPTER

As usual, Wisconsin T.U.'s newest chapter had a very busy and productive winter. The chapter began work on its project on Tenmile Creek in Wood County on Feb. 19 by brushing 1,500 feet of streambank, mapping the project stretch and developing a parking area and an angler walker trail.

Future work on the stream section will include placing of brush bundles and installation of brush mats, and development and installation of Paynter logs which will provide cover for trout and stable habitat for invertebrates.

Also on tap this year is work on Peterson Creek and the Middle Tomorrow River.

The chapter's second annual Conservation Banquet was held March 22 at Shooter's Supper Club in Plover, with another good turnout expected.

A chapter "Fun Nite" was held in February.

The chapter is looking more deeply into involvement in environmental education, including scholarships for summer camps, work with programs already underway at the UW-Stevens Point campus, and a school-related workshop. The chapter will host a "Kids Fishing Day" on June 18 at Mead Park in Stevens Point.

And, the chapter may also be distributing literature and fishing/conservation videos to local libraries.

In March, DNR fish manager Al Niebur of Wautoma presented information to chapter members on data collected from the 1993 study on the Little Wolf River watershed, as well as information about the anadromous strain of brown trout that interchange between the Waupaca Chain-of-Lakes and Emmons Creek.

Frank Hornberg T.U. expressed its pleasure that the Tomorrow/Waupaca River has been selected as a Priority Watershed by the state, and thus will be eligible for infusion of state funds to help clean up sources of non-point pollution. The chapter hopes to be able to play a role in bringing about a cleaner and "fishier" Tomorrow/Waupaca River.

GREEN BAY CHAPTER

No report

HARRY NOHR CHAPTER

No report

KIAP-TU-WISH CHAPTER

Last issue, Kiap-TU-Wish sadly reported on the passing of long-time member Dick Frantes. Unfortunately, the chapter has had another loss, this time with the death of Dr. Ivan Schloff, who passed away Jan. 18th after a long battle with cancer. Schloff had headed the chapter's Willow River Committee and was instrumental in the reclamation efforts in the new section on the Upper Willow.

The chapter has established an Ivan Schloff Memorial fund, with donations to be sent to: Kiap-TU-Wish T.U., P.O. Box 483, Hudson, WI 54016.

Also, Dick Frantes' widow, Jeanne, has announced that she has all of Dick's quality fishing and fly tying paraphernalia for sale, hoping that it will go to people who appreciate fine equipment. Call Jeanne in West St. Paul, MN, at (612) 457-5979 for information.

The chapter carried out work projects on the Kinnickinick River during the winter months, clearing brush and trees from stream sections to facilitate better streamflow.

In February, Minnesota Department of Agriculture hydrologist Paul Wotzka addressed Kiap-TU-Wish members with regard to the MDA's surface water monitoring program that checks for pesticides and other agricultural chemicals in surface waters.

At the March meeting, the chapter's annual meeting, by-law changes were reviewed.

LAKESHORE CHAPTER

Chapter president Jeff Preiss reports that the chapter has a full slate of activities set up for spring and summer.

In Sheboygan County, habitat work will be carried out on the Mullet River and on a branch of the Onion River in conjunction with the DNR. In Manitowoc County, the chapter plans to do some fencing and install a cattle watering pump on land bordering Silver Creek.

As in past years, the chapter will allocate funds to sponsor two students to do the Central Wisconsin Environmental Station summer conservation camps.

Fun activities are also on tap, too. The chapter will host a steelhead outing on the Branch River in April, and will put on a picnic for members and their families in June.

MARINETTE COUNTY CHAPTER

The chapter's 11th annual Conservation Banquet was held March 7th, and from all appearances it was a record-breaking event. Nearly 300 people packed The Dome in Marinette for a great time. Results will be listed in the next issue of this paper.

Funding priorities for the chapter in 1994 are: \$2,500 for beaver control and dam removal; \$2,000 for habitat work on Brule Creek (Forest County); and \$1,150 for construction of a sand/sediment trap on the South Branch Beaver Creek (Marinette County).

The chapter also plans to continue its variety of youth/education programs, such as "Kids Fishing Day" this summer.

NORTHWOODS CHAPTER

The chapter's 20th annual Conservation Banquet was held Feb. 19th. About 122 people attended and helped the chapter raise nearly \$3,500 for conservation work in 1994.

In late March, the chapter met and set priorities for project funding for the year. Results will be reported in the next issue of Wisconsin Trout.

Meetings held during the cold winter months included a program on wild trout management in Upper Michigan by Michigan DNR fisheries biologist Bill Ziegler of Crystal Falls. In May, elections will be held for chapter officers and directors.

Chapter vice-president Bill Sherer was busy promoting trout fishing techniques during winter by teaching fly tying and fly casting courses at the Lakeland Campus (Minocqua) of the Nicolet Area Technical College.

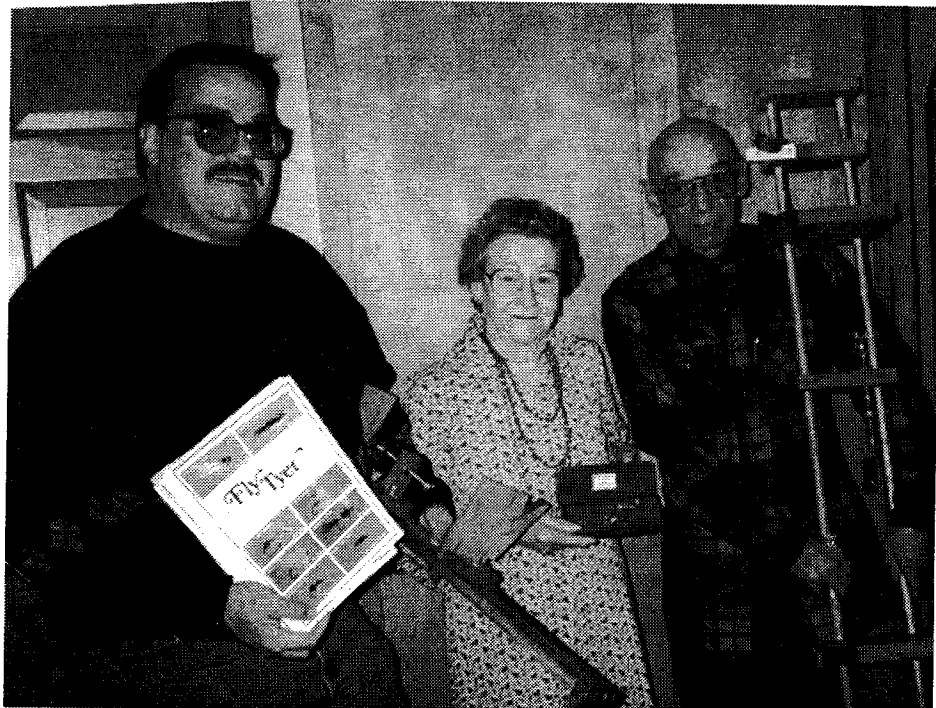
The chapter has agreed to fund the cost (\$2,600) for removal of sediment from the sand/sediment trap on the Prairie River below the old Dells damsite.

OCONTO RIVER WATERSHED CHAPTER

The chapter's annual Conservation Banquet will be held on Thursday, April 21, at Romy's Holiday Inn on Kelly Lake (Oconto County). Tickets are \$25 each. Call Dale Halla at (715) 745-2099 for information.

Once again, the chapter will provide scholarships for students to attend natural resource conservation camps.

ted Chapter reports



Gladys Parker, widow of former TU'er Lee Parker, is flanked by Dave Ogletree (left) and Lowell Gennrich (right). Mrs. Parker donated her deceased husband's fishing gear and magazines to Southern WI T.U. for their auction.

Chapter youth coordinator Pam McMahon will handle the application review.

At its March meeting, the chapter heard a preliminary report from Scott Szymanski of the DNR on results of surveys done on small tributary streams to the main Oconto River in 1993. The purpose of the surveys was to obtain data for supporting the candidacy of the Oconto River as a Priority Watershed project. That study will be featured in a future edition of Wisconsin Trout.

Chapter member Wayne Deering is working with DNR fish managers to set up some habitat work on the main Oconto River for 1994. And, the chapter will decide in spring whether or not to continue a supporting donation to the annual "Fishing Has No Boundaries" fishing event for the physically disadvantaged.

Election of officers for the coming year will be held at the chapter's April 6th meeting.

OJIBLEAU CHAPTER

The chapter had a busy winter. Meeting programs included a presentation on fishing the Bois Brule River in winter by Ron Manz, and a display and talk on rod building by members Ron Koshoshek and Jon Vorndran. Also, DNR fish manager Frank Pratt addressed the chapter in February on the trout fishery of the Namekagon River, and also on the DNR's new "wild trout" hatchery program.

In March, Mike Trudell discussed equipment and tactics used in float tube fishing.

About 15 chapter members had rod-building projects underway in winter, and the chapter had an informal fly-tying group running through February and March.

In December, 1993, the chapter attended a meeting of the Citizen Advisory Board to the Office of the Wisconsin Public Intervenor to urge the Board to set as a priority for Intervenor action the proposed zinc-copper mine planned by Crandon Mining Company near the Wolf River in Forest County.

The chapter's annual banquet is slated for April 21 at Maxwell's Restaurant in the Midway Motor Lodge in Eau Claire.

SHAW-PACA CHAPTER

The chapter is in the midst of finalizing things for its annual Conservation Banquet to be held Thursday, April 7, at

The Gathering in Shawano. For tickets, send checks payable to Trout Unlimited to: Bill Weatherwax, Box 84, Embarrass, WI 54933. Or, call him at (715) 823-5341. Tickets are \$25 each.

Besides planning some work projects for the summer (plans incomplete at present), the chapter is developing ideas for coordinating some activities with local 4-H leaders in order to involve youth in outdoor and conservation programs.

At its February meeting, the chapter approved a donation of \$300 to the Wisconsin T.U. "Friends of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited" program.

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN CHAPTER

In February, the chapter held a meeting and program in which nationally famous fly tyer Royce Dam gave a presentation on tying salmon flies. In March, the chapter held its annual "Steelhead Saturday", with presentations by Oregon fly tyer and guide John Shewey and Wisconsin fly casting specialist Louis Jirokowic. The day after the seminars, chapter members coached attendees in the art of fly casting and fishing in Racine's Root River.

SOUTHERN WISCONSIN CHAPTER

Chapter president Dave Ogletree reports that the chapter's annual "Ice Breaker" event was another great success. Speakers Don Daughenbaugh and Bob Jacklin gave informative talks in their areas of expertise, and there were plenty of prizes as well as lots of food and fun for the many trout anglers who came to the program.

The "Ice Breaker" event not only was a financial success for the chapter, providing funds for Southern Wisconsin T.U.'s many conservation projects this year, but it was successful in another way: new members. Twenty-one new members were signed up that day for Southern Wisconsin T.U.!

This year's free fly tying course ran for 10 consecutive weeks and was very attractive. Over 85 students signed up to learn the intricacies of fly tying from the chapter's able cadre of tyers.

In February, the chapter held its annual "Awards Night", and the following people received awards: Ed Geissler (Gold Trout Award for Service); Chuck Rolfsmeyer (Gold Trout Leadership Award for chairing the Dane County Fishing Expo); Sara Johnson (Gold Trout Education

Award); Jim Borchert (Gold Net Award); and Mark Maffit, Jim Krohelski, Clare Mirande, Jeff Mayers and Kay Liddicoat (Certificates of Appreciation).

The month of February was not all "fun and games" for the chapter, though, as once again it had to confront development plans that threaten the Black Earth Creek watershed. An industrial park near the Village of Cross Plains is in the planning stages, and the chapter submitted a strongly-worded statement to the Dane County Regional Planning Commission regarding the development.

Specifically, Southern Wisconsin T.U. said it wants to see the development plan incorporate designs which will guarantee the maintenance of surface water quality, protection of groundwater and avoidance of any practice that would alter the creek's thermal regime.

Also, the chapter stressed the need to prevent encroachment on the creek's riparian zone, and that planning for stormwater and wastewater discharges be done now in order to avoid future problems.

The chapter's March 8th meeting featured its annual "Auction Night", again featuring the auctioneering "dynamic duo" of Colonel Muskrat (Topf Wells) and Dr. Sausage (Larry Meicher). Highlight of the auction was a float trip down a Wyoming wild trout river. The auction helped raise additional funds for chapter projects.

And speaking of projects, chapter members Jim Borchert assumed the chairmanship of the chapter's Project Committee, and he's begun setting up work days and projects for the coming year. These include maintenance and installation of crossing gates on Grinde's/Deer Creek (April 2) and initiating a major fencing project on Meinholtz/Garfoot Creek (May 14).

In the area of environmental protection and education, the chapter will host an "Adopt-A-Stream Clean Up Day" on April 23rd on Black Earth Creek. Also that day, former chapter

president Steve Born will coordinate activities for five students (ages seven to 11) from the towns of Black Earth, Mazomanie and Cross Plains to do a storm sewer stenciling project.

Winter programs enjoyed by Southern Wisconsin T.U.'ers included "Fly Fishing New Zealand" by Steve Born and "Fishing Montana's Big Horn River" by fishing guide Russ Hicks.

Upcoming chapter events are as follows: April 12th - Annual Meeting, with election of officers; April 16th - casting clinic; June 11th - annual Special Needs fishing day.

WILD RIVERS CHAPTER

The chapter has reviewed plans to conduct beaver trapping and beaver dam removal from Bib Brook in Bayfield County, and currently coordinating plans with the DNR to establish a regular beaver control program on the stream. Permission from landowners to trap beaver on private lands along the stream will also be sought.

At the chapter's Feb. 21 meeting, the chapter presented fly rods to youngsters that were sponsored by Wild Rivers T.U. in their T.U. kids program, and the chapter members also gave the kids some casting instructions.

WISCONSIN RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER

The chapter is gearing up for its annual Conservation Banquet set for Saturday, April 9th, at Les & Jim's In Merrill. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. To order tickets, send checks payable to Trout Unlimited to: Brian Marnholtz, N6309 Highway 107, Tomahawk, WI 54487.

Although the date is not set at press time, the chapter plans to hold another fishing outing for the handicapped from the Health Care Center in Wausau in late spring or summer.

Habitat projects lined up for this season include work on 1,300 feet of the Plover River south of Birnamwood Road, as well as a smaller section below the chapter's project area off CTH "N" east of Wausau.

WOLF RIVER CHAPTER

No report



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T.U. participates in manure management forums



Gordon Stephenson of the DNR discusses regulations affecting livestock producers at a Manure Management Forum held in Appleton on Feb. 10.

Results of Youth/Education survey

By Steve Born

With 19 of Wisconsin T.U.'s 21 chapters responding to the State Council's survey on chapter Youth/Education activities, there is reason for optimism for the future of coldwater resource conservation in Wisconsin.

Chapters by-and-large are taking action to educate today's youth in fishing and stream conservation. Eleven of 19 reporting chapters actually have a designated "Youth/Education coordinator" assigned to oversee tasks related to youth and education. And almost every chapter is conducting things like conservation workshops, fly fishing or fly tying classes and other special events for youths, including special "Kids Fishing Days."

For example, Antigo and Shaw-Paca chapters each host annual fishing days in early June, stocking fish in local lakes and providing prizes as well as picnic lunches. Marinette County T.U. works in conjunction with local Park and Recreation Departments to sponsor similar activities. And several chapters, such as Southern Wisconsin and Wisconsin River Valley, put on fishing events for physically challenged or emotionally disadvantaged kids.

Some chapters are doing highly innovative and exciting things. Green Bay T.U. is designing and building a "walk-through educational trout stream" along Hallars Creek in the Brown County Reforestation Camp area. It is a three-year project that will cost nearly \$15,000 and involve many hours of volunteer labor and planning.

The Frank Hornberg Chapter out of Stevens Point works with the Portage County Big Brothers/Big Sisters to provide education to youth about ecology, resource management theory and fishing techniques.

And the Lakeshore Chapter provides its area Big Brothers/Big Sisters program with refurbished rods and reels for use in fishing.

Other chapters promote contests to pique students' ideas on environmental protection. The Wolf River Chapter conducts "Water and Environment" essay contests in various school grades, and awards fishing rods and other equipment as prizes. Central Wisconsin T.U. has helped construct an outdoor classroom and trail at Wautoma High School.

The Antigo Chapter sponsors a unique art contest for local high school art students, with a theme of "Preserving Freshwater Resources." The chapter offers cash prizes, and has had outstanding success using the winning

entry on the cover of its banquet program.

A total of 12 of the 19 reporting chapters award youth conservation scholarships. These range from Green Bay's six scholarships to area environmental camps (a \$900 expense) to scholarships given out by Northwoods, Ojiblaeu and Shaw-Paca for students to attend the Central Wisconsin Environmental Education Center.

Chapters like Fox Valley and Oconto River Watershed go one step further by offering a scholarship annually to students enrolled in fisheries management at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. And Southern Wisconsin T.U. has a program to formally honor youth conservation contributions.

Sixteen out of 19 T.U. chapters report that they have active programs to place books, Trout Magazine, conservation videos and other materials in local community and school libraries. And many give occasional talks to local classes about coldwater resource conservation, trout and fishing.

And one chapter, Lakeshore, has a youth raffle at its annual banquet, an event to which they provide free tickets for middle school and high school students.

T.U. National has produced some superb materials to assist chapters in youth education, such as a chapter Youth Handbook and a periodic flyer called "Emergers." About half of the chapters are aware of the existence of these supplementary materials from National.

Based upon the survey, several chapters have youth/education activities in the planning stage, and all are seeking ideas from other chapters on how to be more effective in this important facet of Trout Unlimited.

We hope that chapters willingly share their ideas, methods and successes, not only with each other, but also with Wisconsin Trout, so that we might all benefit from these learning experiences.

It's important that we do so, because there is a sound rationale for chapters to invest in youth activities. As mentioned by Northwoods Chapter president, Dave Newhouse, "We have only four members who are under 50 years old!"

If we are going to pass the torch, so to speak, of conservation activism and concern for our coldwater resources, we need to begin today to create tomorrow's guardians of our beloved coldwater resource heritage. My thanks to all who participated in this survey.

During the first two weeks of February, Wisconsin Trout Unlimited representatives participated in a series of "Livestock Manure Management" meetings held throughout the state. Sponsored by the "Wisconsin Agriculture FOR the Environment" coalition, the forums were designed to impress upon those in livestock agriculture the need for controlling and managing manure and runoff to both protect watersheds and improve the profitability of operations.

Forums were held in Sparta (Feb. 10), Arthur (Feb. 2), Lake Mills (Feb. 3), Menomonee (Feb. 8), Marshfield (Feb. 9) and Appleton (Feb. 10).

Attendees were informed by Gordon Stephenson of the DNR about current environmental regulations that directly affect farm operations, and also of federal laws and state rules that are likely to be made stricter in years to come as public concern over agriculture's impact on water quality mounts.

Stephenson noted that one farm with 30-50 cows produces as much organic pollution as a town of 300-500 people, and thus there was a very real need for handling livestock manure in such ways as to avoid impact on the state's waters.

University of Wisconsin Extension professor Dick Wolkowski noted that articles urging proper manure management date back as far as 1912. He also spoke at length about specific ways to

use manure in efficient and environmentally sound methods.

Wisconsin Trout Unlimited was invited as a participant in the forums because of the organization's longstanding involvement in conservation issues and also because of the fact that many chapters have worked successfully with farmers to improve or restore streambanks that have been damaged by overgrazing and trampling.

At the Marshfield and Appleton meetings, former Wisconsin T.U. Council chairman Mitch Bent gave a slide presentation on how T.U. works with landowners to fence off streams, create cattle crossings and improve both riparian areas and farm operations.

In addition, Bent noted that many T.U. chapters are able to produce both volunteer labor and financial backing to projects involving repair of riparian areas that are eligible for partial cost-share funding through the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) or the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS).

Workshop sponsors included the International Chamber of Agriculture, the Grant County Farm Bureau, Maple Leaf Farms, the Wisconsin Farm Bureau, the Wisconsin Pork Producers Association and the National Pork Producers Council.

N.E. region meets

The Northeast Region of the Wisconsin T.U. State Council met in early December, 1993, at Buettner's Wild Wolf Inn south of Langlade.

At the meeting, chapter delegates heard from area fish managers on habitat projects undertaken in 1993 and plans for projects in 1994. A synopsis of these projects are listed here.

Lloyd "Duke" Andrews (Forest, Oneida and Vilas counties): Andrews noted that since ascendancy to the post of fisheries supervisor for the North Central District of the Department of Natural Resources had resulted in a vacancy of the top fisheries post at the Woodruff Area office. That spot has been filled by Mike Coshun, who formerly had worked on the Lake Michigan team of fisheries managers.

Andrews noted that he hoped to expand the inland lake trout fishery to another five-six lakes in the northern part of his district, and that he also was overseeing a wide variety of habitat work in the area, though his new duties did not allow him as much "field time" as had his post in Woodruff.

"Duke" thanked T.U. for their support "on-short-notice" when dollar shortfalls arose on projects, and T.U. was asked to financially assist on these projects. He also urged T.U. members to stay on top of the issue of "biodiversity", a topic that is becoming increasingly important for managers as they plan improvement projects.

Max Johnson (Antigo Area): Johnson noted with pleasure that he had finally been able to carry out his plan for some in-stream habitat work on the Wolf River in 1993. A quarter-mile stretch above Hollister was the site of stream channel narrowing and boulder placement, with the result in creation of a new channel. Johnson noted that log drives early in this century had actually perturbed a large area in and along the Wolf River, and the river as we know it today is not in the same condition it was prior to the logging era.

Max also mentioned the project going on with regard to introduction of "wild" rainbow trout into the Wolf River, via a cooperative venture between the DNR, Wolf River Chapter of T.U. and the Menomonee tribe.

Projects done in 1993 in Johnson's

area included brush bundle placement and channel deepening on the Plover River; brush bundle and boulder installation and channel deepening in the North Branch Prairie River; and, cleaning of the sediment trap in the Prairie River below the former Prairie Dells dam.

Johnson said he plans to continue with similar work on those three waters in 1994.

Pond dredging on Brule Springs (Forest County) would continue in 1994, Max stated, and if that work is finished early, the Department would commence with hydraulic dredging on Jacobsen Springs in Marathon County. And, he added, it was possible that the timetable for selective dredging on Elton Springs in Langlade County may be moved up to a 1995 start date, if the afore-mentioned dredging projects proceed smoothly.

Tom Thuemler (Marinette Area): Thuemler thanked T.U. for assisting the DNR with the purchase of the former Evergreen Trout Hatchery in southern Marinette County. The hatchery lies over Walker Creek, an important cold water feeder to the North Branch Beaver Creek, and the department will dismantle the hatchery and allow the water from Walker Creek to flow cleanly and unimpeded into the North Branch of the Beaver.

Stream surveys done in Thuemler's area showed that the re-opening of the inland trout season in 1992 resulted in a lot of fish being cropped off--despite the new inland trout fishing regulations--and trout populations on many survey streams plummeted back to the low levels found at the height of the late-1980's drought.

Tom mentioned that the fisheries crew had completed a three-year project on the South Branch Oconto River involving installation of many prefabricated bank structures. In 1994 Upper Middle Inlet Creek will be the site of a trout stamp-funded habitat improvement project.

Following the reports by the fish managers, the regional representatives held elections, and Harley Erbs of Rhinelander was re-elected as the Northeast Region vice-president for another one-year term.

Citizens committee finishes work on shoreland management guidelines

The Shoreland Management Advisory Committee to the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) completed its seven-month task in January, 1994, of formulating language for ordinances that counties may voluntarily adopt to protect streambanks and lakeshores from agricultural impacts such as grazing and cropping.

The advisory committee was created by the 1991 Wisconsin Act 309 (Senate Bill 281) to provide DATCP with assistance in developing guidelines for an agricultural shoreland management ordinance. The guidelines are designed to help local governmental units adopt local agricultural shoreland management ordinances.

The Act also provided an initial amount of \$500,000 of cost-sharing money available to farmers and counties affected by an agricultural shoreland management ordinance.

Where ordinances are adopted, landowners will be eligible for 80 percent cost-sharing to install best management practices (BMP) needed to control erosion and runoff. Grants may be paid directly to landowners or passed through counties.

Under ordinance guidelines, lands subject to the ordinances will include shoreland corridors (lands within 20 feet of perennial and intermittent streams and lakes or ponds) and agricultural shoreland management areas (ASMA), which are lands within

300 feet of perennial streams, lakes and ponds.

Activities subject to ordinances include:

Cropping

*Corridor - row cropping is not allowed, and adequate vegetative cover or BMP erosion control practices are required.

*ASMA - cropland must meet the tolerable erosion rate ("T" rate) as specified in the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) Field Office Technical Guide.

Grazing

*Pasturing-may continue in the corridor and the ASMA if the landowner meets certain standards.

*Rotational grazing - is permitted if it meets standards as delineated in the University of Wisconsin-Extension pamphlet "Pastures for Profit" (Feb., 1993).

Barnyards, feedlots, drylots and other non-pasture areas

*Livestock confinement - these areas are prohibited within the corridor, unless the landowner installs a barnyard runoff control system that meets technical standards.

*Existing structures - can remain in the corridor.

Nutrient management - lands in the corridor and ASMA receiving nutrients from manure, sludge, commercial fertilizer and other nutrients must meet technical standards.

As noted before, adoption of a shore-

land management ordinance by a unit of government, be it county or township, is voluntary. If an ordinance is adopted, the guidelines as created by the Shoreland Management Advisory Committee will act as the minimum guidelines which may be enforced.

Counties may adopt an ordinance which has guidelines stricter than those entailed in the committee's final draft, and townships within those counties could enact weaker ordinances than those approved by the county. But...the minimum standards that may be in any ordinance adopted are those set by the Advisory Committee.

The ordinances must specify who or what level of government will administer the ordinances; whether there will be civil forfeitures for ordinance violation and how much they will be; and what appeals processes will be available to those who are cited for ordinance violations.

The guidelines also state that no enforcement of ordinances may be carried out unless adequate cost-sharing dollars are available to the units of government enacting such ordinances.

Once ordinances are enacted and funding is in place, technical staff at the county or town level will determine where problems exist. They will inform the landowner(s) by mail about the determination of these problems, and

they will set forth to develop a conservation plan along with a timeline to correct the problem.

Enforcement may begin one year after the plan has been established and cost-sharing is available.

The state intends to establish several high-profile "Demonstration Projects" once things are finalized in order to educate landowners and governmental units about the benefits of shoreland management.

Public information meetings were held during March in Marshfield, Arthur, Watertown, Eau Claire, Green Bay and Richland Center to introduce the public to the committee's guideline proposals and to solicit public input on the guidelines.

Subsequent to those meetings and briefings with the Land and Water Conservation Board, the guidelines will be sent to the DATCP Board for review and approval.

So, while the final product is not nearly as strong as conservationists had wanted the law to be, the guidelines for voluntary adoption of county/township shoreland management ordinances present a first step in correcting many years of abuse to the state's waters - the public trust - by those who practice poor agricultural grazing and cropping practices.

Priority watersheds selected

Trout streams selected

The Wisconsin Nonpoint Source Water Pollution Abatement Program recently designated four watersheds in Wisconsin's Great Lakes areas as priority watershed projects. Included in the list are two watersheds important to state trout anglers.

The Tomorrow/Waupaca River watershed in the Fox/Wolf River drainage system and the Branch River, part of the Manitowoc River drainage system, were chosen from a list of potential watersheds to receive priority for funding of work that will help abate water quality problems stemming from erosion, fertilizer and manure runoff and poor land use practices.

Also chosen were Lake Noquebay (Marinette County) as a priority lake project, and the Lower West Bay watershed that includes the Red River and Little Sturgeon Bay in Door

County.

The Tomorrow/Waupaca River watershed was selected due to the high quality of the its recreational opportunities. The Branch River has been targeted, because the Department of Natural Resources is making great efforts to establish a high quality anadromous rainbow trout fishery in the Branch/Manitowoc River system.

The program relies upon landowners and municipalities to play the biggest roles in all aspects of the program, from defining the impacts currently affecting water quality to developing plans to improve and preserve that quality.

Projects generally require 10 years for plan development, landowner enrollment and installation of management practices. Maintenance of practices is required for an additional 10 years.

Trout habitat projects slated for 1994


The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has preliminary plans to allocate a total of \$721,188 of Inland Trout Stamp revenues for trout habitat improvement work in fiscal year July 1,

1993 - June 30, 1994.


Listed below are the streams, their locations and the amount of money allocated for habitat work on them this fiscal year.

TROUT STAMP PROJECTS FUNDED FOR 1993 - 1994

District	Area	County	Water Name	Type of Work	Funds Allotted
LM	Marinette	Marinette	U.Middle Inlet	Structures	18,000
"	"	Oconto	S.Br. Oconto R.	Structures	21,000
"	"	Area	Area Waters	Maintenance	8,400
"	Oshkosh	Area	Area Waters	Maintenance	13,784
"	"	"	"	All	22,720
"	"	Waupaca	Waupaca R.	Structures	33,600
NC	Antigo	Lincoln	Prairie R.	Sand Trap	3,000
"	"	Langlade	E. Br.Eau Claire & Evergreen R.	Structures	12,901
"	"	Area	Area Waters	Maintenance	5,400
"	Wis. Rapids	Portage	Tomorrow R.	Structures	13,900
"	"	Adams	Fordham Cr.	Structures	15,200
"	"	Juneau	"	Structures	9,375
"	"	Area	Area Waters	Maintenance	1,870
"	Woodruff	Forest	Elvoy Cr.	Structures	7,100
"	"	Vilas	Plum Cr.	Redevelop	6,115
"	"	Area	Area Waters	Maintenance	1,980
NW	Brule	Bayfield	Pike's Cr.	Brush. & Struct.	42,400
"	"	"	White R.	Maintenance	12,000
"	Cumberland	Barron	Yellow R.	Structures	20,213
"	"	Burnett	Dogtown & Stuntz	YCC	7,600
"	"	Washburn	Fishery Areas	Maintenance	5,060
"	Park Falls	Rusk	Devils & SF Main	Fencing	17,500
"	"	Sawyer	Price & Hackett	Maintenance	8,500
"	Headquarters	All	All	Equipment	3,500
"	DFO	Brule & Park Falls Areas	"	Maintenance	2,000
W	Bl R Falls	Jackson	N Br Trempealeau	Structures	23,000
"	"	Jackson	N & S Br Trempe.	Fencing	24,035
"	"	Area	Area Waters	Maintenance	7,400
"	La Crosse	Area	Area Waters	Structures	70,000
"	"	Monroe	Leon Cr.	Spring Diversion	1,000
"	"	Area	Four Streams	Maintenance	32,000
"	Eau Claire	Area	Area Waters	Struct.& Riprap	50,000
S	Dodgeville	Iowa	Trout Cr.	Bank Sloping	60,000
"	"	Richland	Willow Cr.	Struct & Brushing	74,400
"	Madison	Dane	Black Earth Cr.	Struct.& Riprap	21,220
"	Headquarters	All	All	Equipment	3,500
SE	Eagle	Waukesha	Scuppernong Spring	Restore Channel	9,000
"	"	Sheboygan	Ben Nutt Cr.	Structures	4,850
"	"	Sheboygan	Glenbeulah Springs	Dredge	27,665
			Total		721,188



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U.P. "Poachers Watch" program



Small tyke with large brook trout from Upper Michigan trophy brook trout lake.

If you read one of the recent *Trout Magazine* issues, Autumn of 1993 to be exact, you may have browsed through the article by Ted Williams (the outdoor writer, not the baseball player) on Maine brook trout and the problems associated with poaching of these lovely fish by two-legged vermin in that state.

Well, Maine has no corner on the number of unscrupulous bandits who rape the resource. Michigan's Upper Peninsula takes a back seat to no state when it comes to fish and game poachers. And so casual is the judicial system toward trout poaching in the U.P. that it is hard to find a case where someone arrested for trout poaching has been convicted.

That has been bad news for trout - and honest trout anglers - in the western part of the U.P., because attempts to establish some trophy brook trout lakes in Iron County have not been as successful as they could have been.

However, a project undertaken by a Trout Unlimited chapter out of Iron River, Michigan, has been having some good success in making sure that certain "trophy brook trout lakes" do not get fished out by poachers.

Called the "Poacher Watch Program", the effort consists of recruitment of volunteers who offer their time to fish on one of the trophy brook trout lakes established north of the Iron River area and who are willing to report

anglers who appear to be violating the special regulations set for these lakes.

And the program - simple as it sounds - has been highly successful! On one lake which has a "Poacher Watch" program, the population of adult brook trout has tripled in two years.

In summer of 1994, a total of three lakes will have the "Poacher Watch" program established. These lakes have the potential of growing some of the largest brook trout in North America. If you dream of catching-and-releasing large brookies (like the one shown in the photo), this program may be for you.

Upper Peninsula T.U. activist John Jacobs of Iron Mountain, MI., is asking for assistance from Wisconsin T.U.-ers in this venture. Volunteers are needed all through the spring, summer and early fall months to monitor these lakes (Michigan's trout season runs April 30 - Sept. 30).

Ideally, volunteers should have a portable cellular phone (Cell U Link or Cellular One coverage) or a video camera in order to participate. But lack of one should not deter anyone from helping out.

For information about this unique program, give John a call at (906) 774-8537 between 5 p.m. - 10 p.m. (Central Standard Time). Not only will you be able to help out in a worthwhile effort, you may catch the biggest brook trout of your life!!

WISCONSIN'S WOLF RIVER

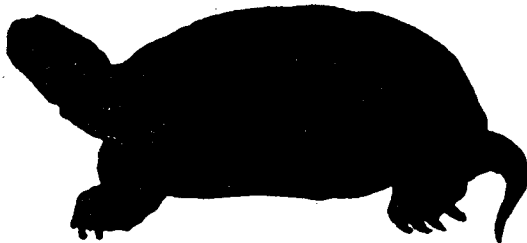
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Mike's Mobil Service

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Turtle Sites

The Bureau of Endangered Resources is initiating a study to look at turtle mortality on highways. We are proposing to investigate the effectiveness of posting turtle crossing signs to reduce turtle mortality. Vehicle traffic is a major mortality factor for turtle populations where roadways occur adjacent to wetlands. These sites are often attractive to turtles for nesting which generally occurs in early summer.

We are seeking information on locations where you have observed **heavy** turtle mortality. After receiving responses, we will be mailing respondents a brief questionnaire to provide more details on the sites identified. The sites indicating the heaviest mortality will be selected for study. We hope to initially study five or six sites statewide.

Please fill out the form below if you have a candidate site and mail to:

**Mr. Robert Hay, Bureau of Endangered Resources,
P.O.Box 7921, Madison, Wisconsin 53707**

Thank you for your help!

Site Location _____

Site Description _____

Approximate number of roadkilled turtles observed this year at this site. (Please circle one.)
 1-5 turtles 6-10 turtles 11-25 turtles more than 25 turtles

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE: Day () _____ Evening () _____

Fishing Has No Boundaries" sets events

Fishing Has No Boundaries is an educational, non-profit organization which is dedicated to opening the world of fishing and the joys it brings to all disabled persons.

It introduces educational devices to aid the disabled angler and promotes access to the outdoors through annual fishing events. Through constant research and development, new fishing devices are always in the offering at fishing events sponsored by the group, and disabled citizens are discovering that there are many ways in which they can participate in outdoor recreational pursuits.

In a short period of time, Fishing Has No Boundaries has put together six active chapters in five states, with plans for three more chapters in the coming years.

Chapters in Wisconsin have set weekend events this spring to provide disabled citizens with special fishing outings. They are: May 20-22 in Hayward, WI June 2-4 in Eagle River, WI.

Fishing Has No Boundaries is always looking for assistance from people or groups that would wish to assist with the weekend events or provide financial help to sponsor disabled persons

for the fishing days.

If you or your chapter would like to help out, here are the addresses and phone numbers to call:

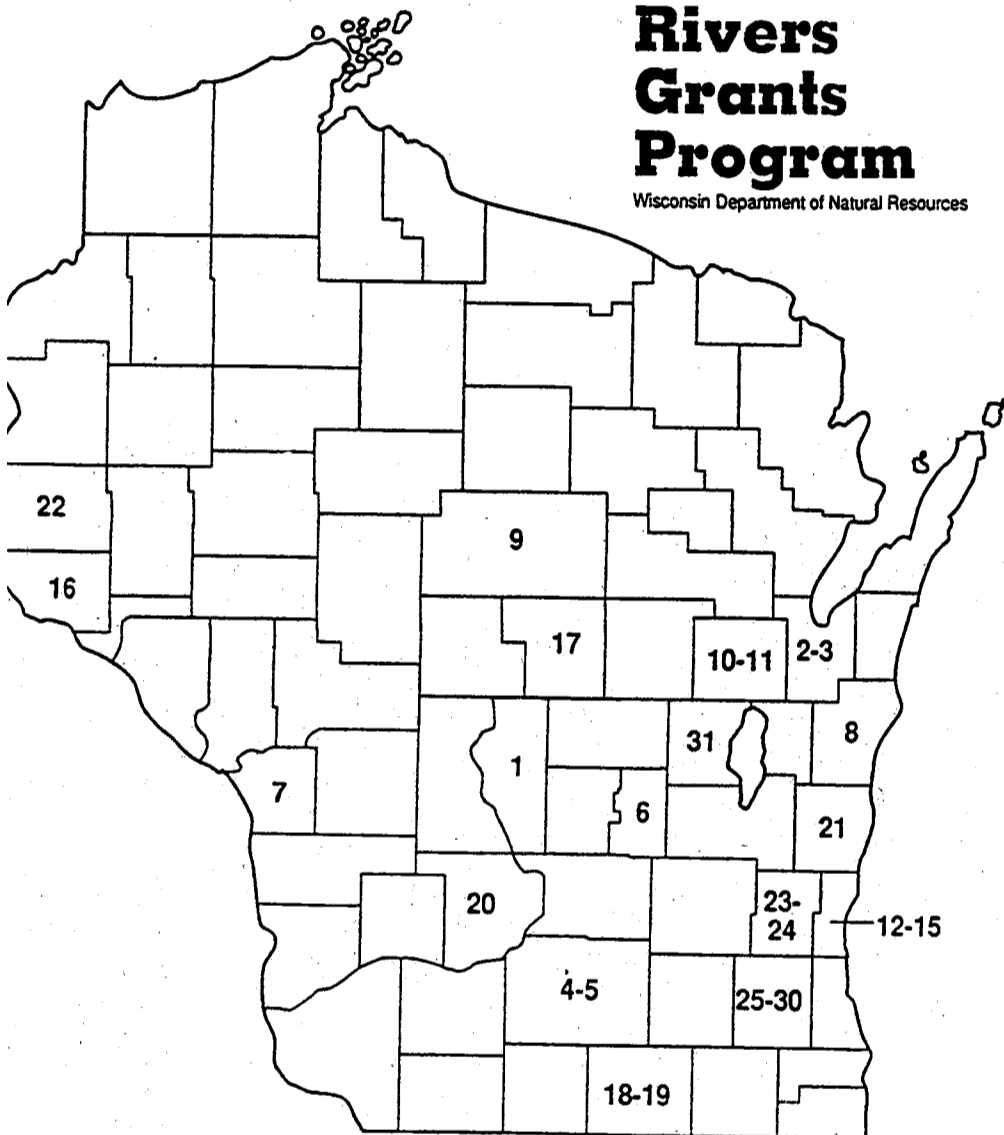
Fishing Has No Boundaries, Inc., Dept. MHM, P.O. Box 175, Hayward, WI 54843; (715) 634-3185. Or, same group name with address: 4913 Hwy. G, Eagle River, WI 54521.

By helping those with special needs to enjoy and appreciate the outdoors, you will not only be assisting those in need, but you will also give yourself a better appreciation of the many blessings that the outdoors gives.



Urban Rivers Grants Program

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources



1	Adams County	Roche-A-Cri River	Village of Friendship	\$8,500
2	Brown County	East River	Town of Bellevue	\$90,325
3	Brown County	Baird Creek	City of Green Bay	\$106,950
4	Dane County	Yahara River	Dane County	\$213,000
5	Dane County	Maunasha River	Village of Marshall	\$70,000
6	Green Lake County	Fox River	City of Berlin	\$11,250
7	LaCrosse County	LaCrosse/ Mississippi River	City of LaCrosse	\$49,450
8	Manitowoc County	East Twin River	City of Two Rivers	\$103,000
9	Marathon County	Wisconsin River	City of Wausau	\$28,000
10	Outagamie County	Fox River	City of Kaukauna	\$25,000
11	Outagamie County	Fox River	City of Appleton	\$18,930
12	Ozaukee County	Cedar Creek	Village of Grafton	\$65,000
13	Ozaukee County	Milwaukee River	Village of Saukville	\$25,000
14	Ozaukee County	Sauk Creek	City of Port Washington	\$127,500
15	Ozaukee County	Pigeon Creek	City of Mequon	\$245,000
16	Pierce County	Kinnickinnic River	City of River Falls	\$63,850
17	Portage County	Plover River	City of Stevens Point	\$9,500
18	Rock County	Rock River	City of Beloit	\$380,000
19	Rock County	Rock River	City of Beloit	\$180,000
20	Sauk County	Narrows Creek	Village of Loganville	\$8,700
21	Sheboygan County	Sheboygan River	City of Sheboygan	\$40,000
22	St. Croix County	St. Croix River	City of Hudson	\$121,968
23	Washington County	Rubicon River	City of Hartford	\$30,854
24	Washington County	Silver Creek	City of West Bend	\$18,000
25	Waukesha County	Menomonee River	Village of Menomonee Falls	\$108,950
26	Waukesha County	Menomonee River	Village of Menomonee Falls	\$8,700
27	Waukesha County	Oconomowoc River	Waukesha County	\$76,000
28	Waukesha County	Mukwonago River	City of Mukwonago	\$103,750
29	Waukesha County	Lilly Creek	Village of Menomonee Falls	\$73,000
30	Waukesha County	Fox River	Village of Menomonee Falls	\$85,700
31	Winnebago County	Fox River	City of Omro	\$35,000

Urban Rivers Grants Program

Wisconsin municipalities will be receiving more than \$2 million to purchase and protect land along urban rivers under a new stewardship program being administered by the department. (See below.)

The Urban Rivers Grants Program provides matching grants of up to 50 percent to municipalities so they may purchase land along rivers within their borders, according to Duane Hofstetter, grant program manager.

"The grants are for the acquisition of property," Hofstetter said. "If a municipality wishes to develop the land, it must be at its own costs or through other grants that could be applied to urban river projects, such as those offered under the Stewardship Program."

Hofstetter said there are three main goals of the Urban Rivers Grants Program: to make available funds that will establish additional outdoor recreational opportuni-

ties; to preserve and restore significant historical, cultural or natural areas; and to help revitalize economically-depressed areas by providing funds for improving the environmental quality of river corridors.

The Wisconsin Legislature has set aside funds for the program for each year until 2000. No applicant may receive more than 20 percent of the available funds in a given fiscal year.

Communities interested in applying for Urban Rivers grants must complete and submit applications by May 1 of each year to the DNR district community services specialist in their area. The department's Bureau of Property Management also provides assistance for the planning of urban rivers projects.

For more information, contact Duane Hofstetter at (608) 266-5891.



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State Council meets, elects officers

The Wisconsin State Council of Trout Unlimited held its annual meeting on January 29, 1994, in Stevens Point.

Among the items covered at the meeting were:

***Membership** - Chairman Jim Hlaban that Wisconsin T.U. dropped 186 members total during 1993, going from 2,493 to 2,307.

***"Friends of Wisconsin T.U."** - John Cantwell reported that the New Year had seen seven new "Friends" sign up. Another spring direct mailing to T.U. members will take place, and discussion was held concerning a corporate "Friends" campaign.

***Catch-and-Release** - Jim Hlaban introduced the committee's "mission statement" to chapters delegates (see separate article), and the Council approved an appropriation of \$1,500 for the "Catch-and-Release" committee to use in developing materials for educating anglers on the proper methods of releasing trout.

***IRS rules** - Chairman Forrest Grulke reminded chapters that new IRS reporting rules made it imperative that chapters follow precise guidelines for informing sponsors and other contributors of the deductible value of their donations to chapter and Council events.

***River Alliance** - As reported elsewhere, the Council approved a donation of \$2,000 to the newly-formed River Alliance of Wisconsin as start-up funding for its operation.

***Elections** - The Council elected the following people to these posts: Chairman - Forrest Grulke (Rothschild); Vice-Chairman - G. Topf Wells (Madison); Secretary - Dave Johnson (Ber-

lin); Treasurer - Ward Cox (Goodman).

After a lunch break, the Council reconvened and began a long discussion regarding the scheduled review and revamping of Wisconsin's inland trout fishing regulations. The Department of Natural Resources had planned to review and revise those regulations prior to the beginning of the 1995 inland trout fishing season, but delays had postponed that planned implementation until the 1996 season.

The State Council Executive Committee had prepared an initial proposal for the purpose of beginning discussion by chapter delegates on this matter. That proposal, put forth in the previous issue of Wisconsin Trout, called for the following:

*Scrapping the Type I category (10 trout/day, no size limit);

*Merging the Type 3 and 4 categories (three trout/day, nine-inch size limit, and three trout/day, eight-inch on brooks and 12 inches on browns and rainbows, respectively) into one category;

*Reviewing and expanding the Category 5 waters based upon accurate biological information; and

*Dropping the current early trout season in eight southwestern Wisconsin counties (Columbia, Crawford, Grant, Green, Iowa, Lafayette, Richland and Sauk) in favor of a general season opener below an east-west boundary line that would occur sometime in March or early April, again based upon sound biological information.

There was considerable input given by chapter members and Council officers on this topic, as was hoped for by the Executive Council. Chapter dele-

gates were instructed by Chairman Grulke to go back to their chapters and seek input on these ideas so that the Council might, at its scheduled May meeting at Fort McCoy, put together a position statement that will serve as the full Council's position on regulation changes.

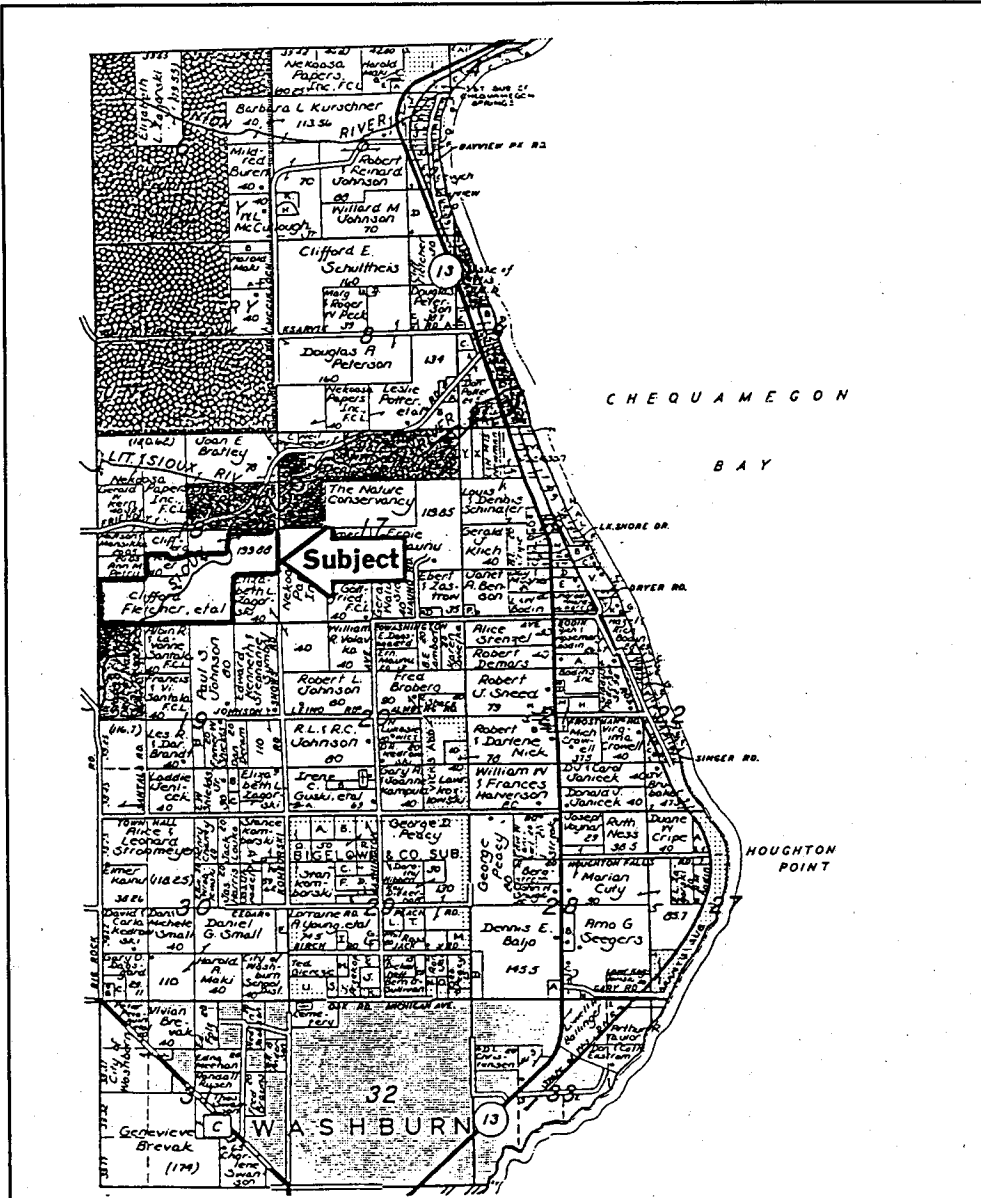
Following the meeting, chapter delegates were treated to a long but interesting presentation on coaster brook trout by Rob Swainson of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Lee Newman of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service based in Ashland, Wisconsin.

The two described how the once flourishing populations of large brook trout that lived in Lake Superior and its tributaries had fallen on hard times due to man-made environmental changes and overharvest by sport anglers.

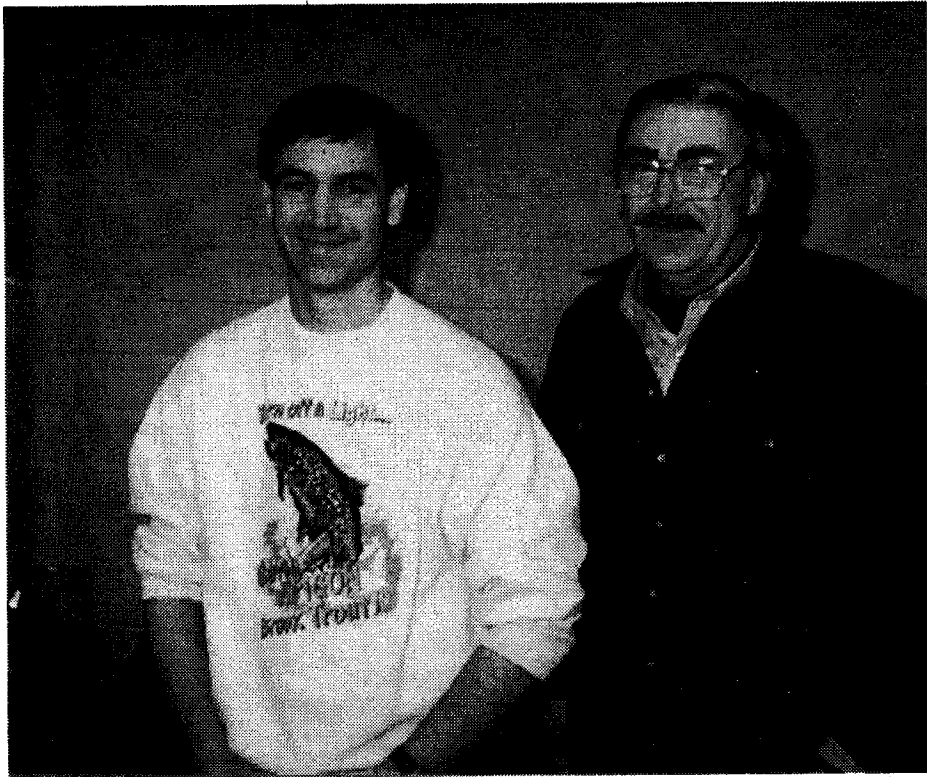
Swainson noted some of the things that he has been attempting to do to hold the line on coaster brookie populations, including: instituting a two trout/day creel limit; creating sanctuaries where no trout angling is allowed in order to protect spawning areas; working with commercial anglers to minimize accidental catches of coasters; and working with hydropower facilities to minimize impacts of dams and their outflow on the coasters' habitat.

Swainson and Newman both noted that they may be asking Wisconsin T.U. for support in the future on certain projects they may have to help restore this special strain of brook trout.

The meeting adjourned at about 4:30 p.m. All chapters were represented at the Council except the following: Blackhawk, Kiap-TU-Wish and Lakeshore.



Sioux River Frontage purchase



Rob Swainson (left) of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Lee Newman (right) of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Ashland) gave a presentation on coaster brook trout at the Jan. 29 council meeting.

NRB approves trout fishery land acquisitions

At the February meeting of the Natural Resources Board, the Board approved two items related to land acquisition along important state coldwater fishery areas.

The Board gave approval for the Department of Natural Resources to buy 202.31 acres of land for the South Shore of Lake Superior Fish and Wildlife Area in Bayfield County. The parcel includes a total of 9,600 feet of frontage along the Sioux River (4,800 feet on each side of the stream). That frontage amounts to one-quarter of the total frontage and one-half the accessible frontage for both the early and late season fishing seasons for anadromous runs of salmonids on the river.

Several springs that contribute cold water influxes to the Sioux are also

located on the newly-bought land.

Acquisition of the land provides for continuous public access along the Sioux River from the slough at its mouth at Lake Superior upstream for more than five miles.

The purchase price of the land (\$65,000) included a \$5,000 donation from the Lake Superior Steelhead Association toward that purchase.

In another land issue, the NRB approved acceptance of the donation of 0.5 acre of land from Ralph and Barbara Plowman of Woodruff for the White River System Fishery Area in Waushara County.

Although small in size, the donated piece is important to the protection of the White River system, as it is a buildable site within the boundary of the White River project.

A GREAT GET-AWAY

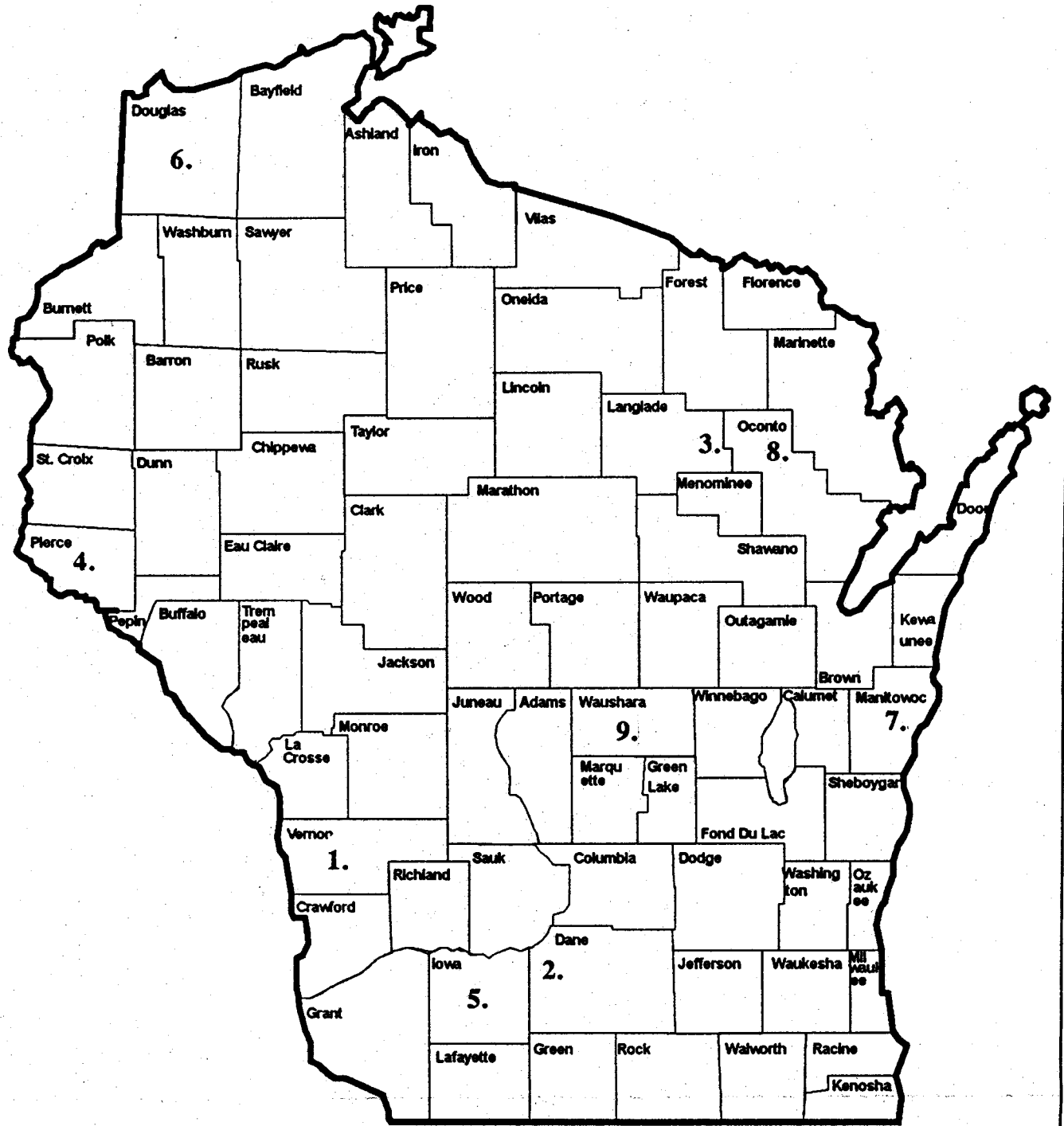


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List of Projects funded via the "Friends of Wisconsin T.U." Program

1. \$4,000 - for rip-rapping and structural improvements on the West Fork Kickapoo River (Vernon Co.)
2. \$1,500 - for placement of LUNKER structures and bank stabilization in Black Earth Creek (Dane Co.)
3. \$1,000 - for hydraulic dredging of Saul Spring Pond (Langlade Co.)
4. \$750 - for purchase of special thermometers to monitor stormwater runoff into the Kinnickinnic River (Pierce Co.)
5. \$2,000 - for re-routing and stabilizing Brewery Creek (Iowa Co.)
6. \$75 - for purchase of "catch-and-release" signs for the Bois Brule River (Douglas Co.)
7. \$2,500 - for renovation of trout rearing facilities in Lincoln Park (City of Manitowoc)
8. \$500 - for bank stabilization and structural improvement on the North Fork Thunder River (Oconto Co.)
9. \$1,000 - for land acquisition along the White River (Waushara Co.)



Trout Unlimited "Friends" program a success

Since its inception in 1990, the Friends of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited program has helped raise vital funds that have been directed by Wisconsin Trout Unlimited toward col-water resource conservation, including both habitat improvement and search.

Over \$13,500 of "Friends" money is being appropriated for such work as dredging, in-stream structure placement, re-routing of streambeds, and acquisition and more. The program has allowed the State T.U. Council to elevate its level of involvement in protection of our trout fishery.

The Council will once again conduct direct-mail campaign to enlist more "Friends" into the program, but individuals and chapters can get a head start that by using the coupon below to either join the "Friends" program or new membership in it.

For annual contributions of \$100 or more, "Friends" will receive a special pin and a certificate of appreciation suitable for framing. And all "Friends" will be listed with each other in four subsequent issues of Wisconsin Trout.

Help Wisconsin Trout Unlimited continue its success in the area of col-water resource conservation by joining, or renewing in, the "Friends of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited" program. Do it today!

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Mitchell G. Bent (R) | Shawano, WI |
| George Bereza | Marinette, WI |
| James C. Bolton | Eau Claire, WI |
| Robert M. Bolz | Madison, WI |
| Lawrence H. Brown | Appleton, WI |
| Thomas J. Buettner | Sheboygan, WI |
| John Cantwell (R) | Green Bay, WI |
| Jon P. Christiansen (R) | Mequon, WI |
| Andrew E. Cook II | De Pere, WI |
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| Wayne A. Disch | Green Bay, WI |
| Spencer Doty | Wausau, WI |
| Dale Druckrey (R) | Bonduel, WI |
| Dick DuPlessie | Eau Claire, WI |
| Tom England | Knoxville, IL |
| Alan G. Finesilver | De Pere, WI |
| William Flader, M.D. (N) | Madison, WI |
| Daniel T. Flaherty | La Crosse, WI |
| Fred P. Forseth | Waupaca, WI |
| Louis Frase, M.D. | Eau Claire, WI |
| Robert Hackinson | Appleton, WI |
| David J. Hanson | Madison, WI |
| Brian Harden | Milwaukee, WI |
| Steve Hawk | Madison, WI |
| Bob Hellyer | Northbrook, IL |
| Walter Hellyer | Fish Creek, WI |
| Charles Hodulik (N) | Madison, WI |
| Charles V. James | Milwaukee, WI |
| Webb Kennedy | Mequon, WI |
| David A. Kindig (N) | Madison, WI |
| Gordon King (N) | Merrill, WI |
| Lane A. Kistler | Milwaukee, WI |
| Donald E. Krall | Milwaukee, WI |
| Richard Kraus | Berlin, WI |
| M. Larry Lasecki | Green Bay, WI |
| David Lenz | Middleton, WI |
| Larry Livengood | Neenah, WI |
| Vernon & Jeanne Lunde | Mt. Horeb, WI |
| Marinette County Chapter (N) | |
| | Marinette, WI |
| James M. McHale | Lily, WI |
| Bruce Miller | Madison, WI |
| Dennis Morgan | Grande Prairie, Alberta (CANADA) |
| | La Crosse, WI |
| Jim Morton | Eau Claire, WI |
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| Ron Kellatz | Merton, WI |
| Thomas J. Rice, M.D. | Marshfield, WI |
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| John P. Schafer | Clintonville, WI |
| Delmar J. Schwaller | Appleton, WI |
| Shaw-Paca Chapter (N) | |
| | Shawano/Waupaca counties |
| John Shillinglaw | Appleton, WI |
| Bob Simon | Somonauk, IL |
| Michael Stapleton | Pardeeville, WI |
| Joseph T. Steuer | Naples, FL |

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|-------------------------|----------------|
| Jack & Suzanne Swanson | Appleton, WI |
| Dain Trafton | Rockford, IL |
| Charles Utzinger | Oostburg, WI |
| William D. Van Dyke III | Milwaukee, WI |
| Richard Wachowski | Eau Claire, WI |
| Don A. Wagner | Gillett, WI |
| Michael W. Waterman | Waukesha, WI |
| J. Nash Williams | Madison, WI |
| Dan Wisniewski (N) | Madison, WI |
| Norb Wozniak | Juneau, WI |
| Fred Young | Roscoe, IL |
| (N) = New "Friend" | |
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Conservation Congress hearings April 11

The annual Wisconsin Conservation Congress fish and game hearings are scheduled to be held in each Wisconsin county on Monday, April 11, starting at 7:00 p.m.

The format of the hearings has been changed this year in order to hasten and streamline the process. Questions identified as statewide game and fish rule changes will be addressed first, followed by those that are of regional or local interest.

Following those will be special advisory questions from the Department of Natural Resources and from the Conservation Congress itself.

Of importance to Trout Unlimited members is a question regarding the closure of the early trout season (January 1 - the day before the general fishing season opener). The Wisconsin T.U. State Council has stated its belief that the current early trout season places too much pressure on a limited resource (in eight southwestern Wis-

consin counties) and should be replaced - based upon sound biological data - with another option that spreads pressure out more and provides more protection for the resource.

Also of importance to T.U.'ers are several environmental practices advisory questions which the Conservation Congress has put forth, including:

*supporting the elimination of the "net proceeds tax" and replacing it with a "depletion allowance" based upon the assay value of mined ore to thus guarantee the state of Wisconsin a return for the extraction of valuable, non-replaceable metallic mineral resources;

*a proposal to eliminate authorization allowing exemptions, modifications, and/or variances to existing environmental regulations for mining;

*a proposal urging the DNR and the Natural Resources Board to maintain

the 16 criteria selection process for establishing state waters as "Outstanding Resource Waters" or "Exceptional Resource Waters", and to oppose the withdrawal of any waters currently classified in either one of those two categories.

A list of the hearing locations in each county is shown below. Wisconsin T.U. urges its members to attend these hearings and to support sound fish and game rule change proposals as well as proposals aimed at protecting Wisconsin's environmental quality.

Adams	Adams-Columbia Lumber Coop, Friendship
Ashland	Mellen High School, Mellen
Barron	Barron County Courthouse-Auditorium, Barron
Bayfield	Courthouse, County Board Room, Washburn
Brown	Southwest High School-Auditorium, Green Bay
Buffalo	Alma High School-Auditorium, Alma
Burnett	Government Center Room 165, Siren
Calumet	Chilton High School-Gymnasium, Chilton
Chippewa	Chippewa County Courthouse, Large Assembly Room, Chippewa Falls
Clark	Clark County Electric Co-Op Auditorium, Greenwood
Columbia	Columbia County Courthouse, 400 De Witte St., Portage
Crawford	Crawford County Courthouse, Prairie du Chien
Dane	Memorial High School, 201 S. Gammon Rd., Madison
Dodge	Horicon City Hall, Horicon
Door	Door County Courthouse, General Meeting Room #A150, Sturgeon Bay
Douglas	Superior Senior High School-Cafeteria, Superior
Dunn	Dunn County Fish/Game Club, Menomonie
Eau Claire	So. Middle School-Auditorium, Eau Claire
Florence	Florence Natural Resources Center, Jct. of Hwys. 2 & 101, Florence
Fond du Lac	Moraine Park Technical College, Hwy. 23 East, Fond du Lac
Forest	Crandon High School-Auditorium, Crandon
Grant	Grant County Youth and Ag Building, Lancaster
Green	Olympic Flame Family Restaurant, 804 4th Ave. West, Monroe
Green Lake	Green Lake High School, Green Lake
Iowa	Dodgeville Elementary School, Multipurpose Room, Dodgeville
Iron	Iron County Courthouse, Hurley
Jackson	Jackson County Courthouse, Black River Falls
Jefferson	Jefferson County Courthouse, Room 205, Jefferson
Juneau	Juneau County Courthouse, Mauston
Kenosha	Central High School-Cafeteria, Paddock Lake
Kewaunee	Kewaunee County Courthouse, Kewaunee
La Crosse	Central High School-Auditorium, La Crosse
Lafayette	Darlington High School-Gymnasium, Darlington
Langlade	Langlade County Courthouse, Antigo
Lincoln	Lincoln County Courthouse, Supervisors Room, Merrill
Manitowoc	UW Center-Manitowoc, Lecture Hall, Manitowoc
Marathon	John Muir Middle School-Auditorium, Wausau
Marquette	Wausaukee High School-Auditorium, Wausaukee
Marquette	Marquette County Courthouse, Montello
Menominee	Menominee County Courthouse, Meeting Room, Keshena
Milwaukee	Nathan Hale High School, West Allis
Monroe	Sparta Senior High School-Auditorium, Sparta
Oconto	Suring High School-Cafeteria, Suring
Oneida	James Williams Junior High-Auditorium, Rhinelander
Outagamie	Wilson School, Appleton
Ozaukee	American Legion Hall No. 82, Port Washington
Pepin	Pepin County Government Center, County Board Room, Durand
Pierce	Hillcrest Elementary School-Auditorium, Ellsworth
Polk	Polk County Courthouse, Meeting Room, Balsam Lake
Portage	Ben Franklin Junior High School-Auditorium, Stevens Point
Price	Price County Courthouse, County Board Room, Phillips
Racine	Union Grove High School-Auditorium, Union Grove
Richland	Richland County Courthouse, Richland Center
Rock	Rock County Health Care Center-Auditorium, Janesville
Rusk	Ladysmith High School-Auditorium, Ladysmith
St. Croix	American Legion Post 240, Baldwin
Sauk	UW - Baraboo Campus, A-4 Lecture Hall, Baraboo
Sawyer	Sawyer County Courthouse, Hayward
Shawano	Shawano Senior High School-Gymnasium, Shawano
Sheboygan	Sheboygan Falls High School-Cafeteria, Sheboygan Falls
Taylor	Taylor County Fairgrounds, Multi-purpose Bldg., Medford
Trempealeau	Trempealeau County Courthouse, Whitehall
Vernon	Vernon County Courthouse, Viroqua
Vilas	Sayner Community Building, Sayner
Walworth	Elkhorn Area Middle School, Elkhorn
Washburn	Department of Agriculture Experimental Farm, Spooner
Washington	UW-Washington County Campus, Room 201 (Big Lecture Hall), West Bend
Waukesha	Waukesha County Expo Center, North Hall, N1 W24848 Northview Rd., Waukesha
Waupaca	Grand Seasons Hotel, 110 Grand Seasons Dr., Waupaca
Waushara	Waushara County Courthouse, County Board Room 265, Wautoma
Winnebago	Oshkosh North High School-Auditorium, Oshkosh
Wood	Pittsville High School-Gymnasium, Pittsville

Downstream with Cal



"Hit from Behind"
By Cal Erickson

This is the time of year for dreaming. Dreaming of big brown trout waiting for this riverman in the Pine and Popple rivers of Florence and Forest counties.

One of the most consistent dreams I have is about the time I got "hit from behind" last summer on the Pine.

I didn't feel the blow, although I certainly wish I had. Rather, I heard the blow and saw the aftermath.

Brown trout, we know, have notorious reputations as "hoods". They're creatures of the night, and, except for rare occasions, avoid the light of day.

When the sun goes down, browns go on the prowl. They maneuver upstream and down like thugs sneaking around back alleys and dimly lit streets. And they hide in dark stream crevices waiting to mug unsuspecting victims.

And, they "hit from behind".

The night I was struck from behind was a lovely evening when the woods and river were bursting with life.

A few mayflies were hatching upstream from me. I could not tell their entomological origins, and would like to have ascertained if they were brown, red, white or rusty, as well as what size they were. Anyway, I chose a fawn-colored mayfly which looked particularly delicious from my flybox and tied

it onto the leader.

But my finest presentations were ignored. I'd let the fly drift downstream until the line had completely straightened out before lifting it up for another cast.

According to experts, only the first few feet of the float - when the fly drifts naturally without drag - will induce a strike. Once the line catches the current and the fly sails downriver like a waterskier being towed by a jet boat, forget it, they say.

The standard rule of thumb is that no self-respecting brown trout will hit a fly in that stage of transition.

Once-in-awhile, however, I have experienced the exception which is supposed to invalidate the rule. So, 99 times out of 100, I follow the fly with my eyes until it completes its downstream journey.

But once that evening I did not do so. There was another trout now working upstream and to my left, and I directed my attention to him as my fly drifted past me.

I was waiting for that tug that would announce the end of the fly's drift, and I was lost in thought, mentally calculating how to put the fly over the upstream feeder when it happened.

There was a tremendous splash only a few feet from me. I turned around and watched foam and bubbles from the large swirl eddy around my still-floating fly.

A very large fish had struck at my fly, obviously. Sometimes - but not often - a fish will hook itself on the strike. Most of the time, however, one must strike immediately when the trout hits, or said fish will spit the artificial from its mouth in the blink of an eye.

The moral of the story is this: do not get hit from behind. Follow the fly completely to the end of the drift.

Now, if I can only follow my own advice this summer!

WISCONSIN TROUT WATERS

DNR trout stream information transferred to county maps.

Maps show Class I & II streams with color overlay.

Adjoining Federal, State, County & Town roads shown.

*Includes trout species

*\$12.95 per copy delivered

CLARKSON MAPS

P.O. Box 218 Kaukauna, WI 54130-0218

Fishing regs errors

Given the complexity of Wisconsin fishing regulations, both for trout and for warmwater fishing, errors annually occur in the printing of these regulations. And this year is no exception.

In the trout fishing regulations pamphlet, an error was made with regard to the opening date of the fishing season on the boundary Brule River. The pamphlet lists the opening day as April 24, but the opener is instead April 30 (April 24 was the opening day in 1993). The April opener coincides with the opening day of the general trout fishing season in Michigan.

On page 35 of the 1994 general fishing regulations, a mistake was made for the "catch-and-release" only season on Lake Michigan tributary streams north of Highway 29 in Kewaunee and Door counties.

The "catch-and-release" season is listed as running from May 7 - March 1, and the open season with daily creel limits is stated to run from June 18 - March 1, an obvious conflict. In reality, the "catch-and-release" season (zero bag limit) runs May 7 - June 17, with the open season for keeping bass in those waters running June 18 - March 1.

RETURN:
Trout Unlimited
Mitch Bent
935 South Union St.
Shawano, WI 54166

Wisconsin Trout

Wisconsin Trout Unlimited

Summer 1994

Early trout season is history

The "early" trout season for eight southwestern Wisconsin counties (all trout waters) and three southern Wisconsin counties (stocked lakes only) has been terminated.

By a large vote at the Spring, 1994, Conservation Congress hearings and approval by the Natural Resources Board, the "early" trout season (Jan. 1 through the day prior to the general fishing season opener) will be discontinued after this year.

The affected counties are Columbia, Crawford, Grant, Green, Iowa, Lafayette, Richland and Sauk (for all trout waters) and Dane, Dodge and Rock (stocked lakes).

The "early" trout season was first established in 1975 in order to spread out the heavy angling pressure that befell southern and southwestern Wisconsin trout streams on the "regular" opening day (first Saturday in May). Department of Natural Resources staff and local chapters of Trout Unlimited felt that such a move would not only better distribute angling pressure, but would also make it easier for DNR staff to buy lands along streams in that area where approved fishery plans existed.

While the two goals described above were achieved, other problems crept in that caused some anglers to re-evaluate their support of the early trout season.

Because of the limited geographical area open to the "early" season, pressure on those trout streams gradually increased over the years, with many anglers coming substantial distances to fish.

Also, the additional four months of angling pressure caused concern among some anglers - particularly those living in the eight southwestern Wisconsin counties - that the resource was being over-exploited, and that too many large fish were being taken during periods of extreme vulnerability.

An ancillary concern was that anglers wading streams in winter months might be walking through spawning redds and thus disrupting the

hatching of trout fry in the redds.

The DNR attempted to widen the area for the "early" season in the 1980's by including La Crosse and Vernon counties in the "early" season area. But that lasted only a short time, as opposition from local anglers in those two counties resulted in removal of La Crosse and Vernon counties from the "early" season.

Opposition to the "early" season had grown over the past several years, and that opposition finally turned into a number large enough that the DNR accepted the idea of terminating the season.

As it now stands, the inland trout season in Wisconsin will open on the first Saturday in May statewide in 1995. Plans are being formulated to devise another type of "early" trout season, one that has a broader geographic base and one that opens in late winter or early spring after trout fry have been able to hatch from spawning redds.

But until something else comes along, the "early" trout season has run its course in Wisconsin.

Other trout,

salmon changes approved

Besides the "early" trout fishing season in southwestern Wisconsin, there were other coldwater resources issues that were debated at the annual Conservation Congress hearings.

Items that received both Congress and Natural Resources Board approval were:

- *Lengthening the open season for lake trout in Lake Michigan from the current May 1 through Labor Day period to a season running from March 1 - Oct. 31.

- *Prohibiting all bait harvest from Lake Superior and its tributaries.

- *Increasing the length limit for trout (other than lake trout) in Green Lake and its tributaries (Green Lake County) from nine inches to 14 inches.

- *Creating a fish refuge adjacent to the new Root River Steelhead Facility,

located at Lincoln Park in Racine, beginning 200 feet downstream of the fish ladder and going upstream to 100 feet past the return pipe of the facility from January 1, 1995, to December 31, 1995.

The DNR withdrew a proposal to lengthen the period when night fishing on most Lake Michigan tributaries would be unlawful, as public support for the plan was lacking.

Mine proposal blasted at hearing

An April 23, 1994, public information and hearing on the Notice of Intent for a proposed zinc-copper mine by Crandon Mining Company near the Wolf River in southwestern Forest County turned into an orgy of opposition to the proposed mine.

Although the Department of Natural Resources, which set up the hearing, had requested that speakers focus on concerns about the mining venture rather than speak for or against the mine, the audience paid scant heed to that request. Instead, one speaker after another marched to the podium to express pro or con positions on the mining proposal, with the vast majority of speakers opposing the mine.

Through all the heated rhetoric, several key concerns about the proposed mine were made.

Many speakers were property owners along lakes within the general area of the proposed mine, and they enunciated fears regarding the vast quantities of water that the mining process would use and the impacts such water usage would have on lakes, wetlands and groundwater tables.

Other speakers voiced suspicions about the companies involved in the mining project. Exxon Coal and Minerals Company (a subsidiary of Exxon Corporation) and Rio Algom, Ltd. (a Canadian mining firm) formed the company called Crandon Mining Company (CMC) for this venture.

Speakers made note of Exxon's irresponsible behavior in the famous Exxon Valdez oil spill off the Alaska coast several years ago, and they also noted that Rio Algom's uranium mining project in Ontario's Serpent River area received a fine from the Canadian government because of the high levels of radioactivity that spread into nearby waterways.

That radioactivity caused a nearby Ojibwa (Chippewa) reservation to curtail fishing in the river, due to chronic diseases, fetal deaths and abnormal births.

Members of Wisconsin's Chippewa, Menominee and Potawatomi nations also attended the hearing and voiced concerns of the impacts the proposed mine might have on the Wolf River and the tribes' wild rice beds.

Mine proponents, though outnumbered, spoke of their concern about high levels of unemployment in the Crandon area. They viewed the mine as a project that would bring good-paying jobs to the area.

CMC officials have stated publicly that 80 percent of all mining-related jobs will go to local individuals, though in 1986 the company stated in a Draft Environmental Impact Statement that up to 40 percent of all jobs may go to local people.

The next step in this issue will be a long analysis and permitting process that will take three-to-five years.

Intervenor appointed for Exxon mine project

The Citizen Advisory Committee to the office of the Wisconsin Public Intervenor has appointed a public intervenor to represent and act on behalf of the citizens of Wisconsin with regard to the proposed zinc-copper mine planned by Exxon and Rio Algom, Ltd. (a.k.a. "Crandon Mining Company").

Laura Sutherland is an assistant attorney general in Government Operations and the Administrative Law Unit of the Wisconsin Department of Justice. She was appointed by the advisory committee to that post in late 1993.

In her capacity as a special public intervenor, Ms. Sutherland has suc-

cessfully challenged various Wisconsin statutes which created unlawful exemptions to Wisconsin's navigable waters protection laws.

She received a B.A. in political science with University Honors from Northern Illinois University, and J.D. degree from the University of Wisconsin Law School, where she served as an Articles Editor on Wisconsin Law Review.

Before joining the Department of Justice, Sutherland worked as a law clerk for the Wisconsin Court of Appeals. She is a member of the Dane County Bar Association and the State Bar of Wisconsin.



Wolf River T.U. Chapter President Herb Buettner (at end of table) addressed T.U. concerns about the proposed Crandon mine.

Wisconsin T.U. Council/Chapter Directory

Chairman: Forrest Grulke, 11 Schmidt Ave., #6, Rothschild, WI 54474 (715) 843-4295 (O), (715) 355-7772 (H).

Vice-Chairman: G. Topf Wells, 4914 Marathon Drive, Madison, WI 53705 (608) 231-3037

Secretary: Dave Johnson, 143 Water St., #108, Berlin, WI 54923 (414) 361-3046 (H)

Treasurer: Ward Cox, N18690 Ten Acre Rd., Goodman, WI 54175 (715) 336-2947

Past Chairman: Steve Born, 424 Washburn Place, Madison, WI 53703 (608) 257-6625 (H)

Fund-raising: John Cantwell, 2286 Mt. Olive, Green Bay, WI 54313 (414) 435-1919 (O); (414) 434-3989 (H)

Legal Counsel: Winston Ostrow, 335 Trader's Point Ln., Green Bay, WI 54302 (414) 469-1596 (H)

Publications: Mitch Bent, 935 South Union St., Shawano, WI 54166 (715) 524-5886

Monterey Trail, De Pere, WI 54115 (414) 336-4983 (H)

Water Resources: John Crane, N2629 Pleasant Park Lane, Waupaca, WI 54981 (715) 258-9173 (H)

Youth/Education: Dale Lange, N3167 Right-of-Way Rd., Peshtigo, WI 54157 (715) 582-4172 (H)

Membership: Jim Hlaban, 1421 Silverwood, Neenah, WI 54956 (414) 722-4335

Aldo Leopold Chapter (#375): Clint Byrnes, 921 S. Spring St., Beaver

Dam, WI 53916 (414) 885-5335

Antigo Chapter (#313): Scott Henricks, 213 Mary St., Antigo, WI 54409 (715) 623-3867

Blackhawk Chapter (#390): Terry Vaughn, 4710 Creek Rd., Beloit, WI 53511 (608) 362-4295

Central WI Chapter: Russ Bouck, 9357 Nelson Rd., Amherst Junction, WI 54407 (715) 824-3781

Coulee Region Chapter (#278): John Bethke, 118 Vernon St., Westby, WI 54667; (608) 634-3641

Fox Valley Chapter (#193): Gene Weber, 1121 W. Northland, Appleton, WI 54914 (414) 739-1168.

Frank Hornberg Chapter (#624): Jeffrey Dimick, 906 W. Walkush Rd., Stevens Point, WI 54481; (715) 341-6647 (H)

Green Bay Chapter (#083): Janet Smith, 3358 Nautical Ave., Green Bay, WI 54311 (414) 433-3803 (O); (414) 468-6154 (H)

Harry Nohr Chapter (#257): Curt Prideaux, 138 S. Iowa, Dodgeville, WI 53533 (608) 935-5268

Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter (#168): Gary Horvath, 623 W. Pine St., River Falls, WI 54022-2036 (715) 425-8489.

Lakeshore Chapter (#423): Jeff Preiss, 15915 CTH "C", Valders, WI 54245 (414) 773-2693 (H)

Marinette County Chapter (#422): Dale Lange (Same as "Youth/Education")

Northwoods Chapter (#256): Bill Sherer, 6272 Oswego Fishtrap Lake Road, Boulder Junction, WI 54512-9721 (715) 385-2186.

Oconto River Watershed Chapter (#385): Dave Brunner, 5473 Cardinal Rd., Gillett, WI 54124 (414) 855-6669 (H)

Ojibseau Chapter (#255): John Welter, 204 E. Grand Ave., P.O. Box 358, Eau Claire, WI 54702 (715) 832-3494 (O); (715) 832-7028 (H)

Shaw-Paca Chapter (#381): Jerry Weatherwax, RR 3, Box 203A, Shawano, WI 54166 (715) 524-5642 (H) (715) 823-2180.

Southeastern WI Chapter (#078): Jon P. Christiansen, 237 Aster Lane, Mequon, WI 53092 (414) 241-5220 (H)

Southern WI Chapter (#061): David Ogletree, 2661 Milwaukee St., Madison, WI 53704 (608) 246-4227 (H)

Wild Rivers Chapter (#415): Paul Gilbert, RR 1, Box 24, Cable, WI 54821 (715) 798-3218 (H)

Wisconsin River Valley Chapter (#395): Herb Hintze, 629 Hamilton St., Wausau, WI 54401 (715) 842-1365 (H)

Wolf River Chapter (#050): Herb Buettner, N4297 Buettner Road, White Lake, WI 54491 (715) 882-8612

Wisconsin T.U. Chapter meeting times, locations

Aldo Leopold: When needed or called; at Beaver Dam Conservation Club, CTH "G", Beaver Dam.

Antigo: Not listed.

Blackhawk: Third Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at UW-Rock County Campus (South Building).

Central Wisconsin: Board meetings at Tilly's in Wautoma on second Monday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

Coulee Region: Not given.

Fox Valley: Third Thursday of the month, 7:30 p.m., at The Forester Club, Spencer St., Appleton.

Frank Hornberg Chapter: Second Thursday of the month, 7:00 p.m. at Shooter's Supper Club, Hwys. 51 & 54, Plover.

Green Bay: First Thursday of September, October, November, January, February, March and April at Maricque's, 1517 University Ave., Green Bay at 7:30 p.m. May picnic/meeting at the Brown County Reforestation Camp. December Christmas/awards dinner at site to be determined. No chapter meetings June-Aug.

Kiap-TU-Wish: First Wednesday of the month at The Hudson House in Hudson. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.; meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Lakeshore: Second Monday of the month, 7:30 p.m. at The Club Bil-Mar, Old Hwy. 141, Manitowoc.

Marinette County: First Tuesday

of the month, 7:00 p.m., at The Dome, 751 University Drive, Marinette.

Harry Nohr: Not given.

Northwoods: Second Thursday of the month, 7:30 p.m., at Valley First National Bank (Community Room), Stevens at Davenport Streets, Rhinelander.

Oconto River Watershed: First Wednesday of the month, 7:45 p.m., at the Lone Oak Gun Club, Hwy. 32 North, Gillett.

Ojibseau: Second Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m., at the Eau Claire Rod & Gun Club, Eau Claire.

Shaw-Paca: Third Thursday of the month, 8:00 p.m., at the Corner Bar, County "M", in Pella (Shawano County).

Southeastern Wisconsin: Fourth Tuesday of the month. Dinner at 6:00 p.m., meeting at 7:30 p.m. At the Bavarian Wursthau, 8310 Appleton Ave., Milwaukee.

Southern Wisconsin: Second Tuesday of the month, dinner at 6:00 p.m., meeting at 7:00 p.m. At the Maple Tree Restaurant, McFarland.

Wild Rivers: Not given.

Wisconsin River Valley: Not given.

Wolf River: At various times. Call Herb Buettner (715-882-8612) for information.

New Chapter leader? Please tell us!!

When chapters elect new officers, it is essential that they inform the State Council AND the T.U. National office of that change. Otherwise, vital information for chapter use gets lost, as it is the unfortunate custom of outgoing chapter presidents to fail to forward mail.

Here are the rules to follow when changing chapter presidents:

1. Inform T.U. National by calling Wendy Reed at (703) 522-0200. She will need name, address, and home and/or work phone number(s). Or, you can mail that information to her at: Trout Unlimited, 1500 Wilson Blvd. Suite 310, Arlington, VA 22209. Include the name of your chapter AND the three-

digit chapter ID number (see Council/Chapter directory on this page).

2. Inform the State Council of the change, too. Send that information to Mitch Bent, 935 S. Union St., Shawano, WI 54166. Or, call him at (715) 524-5886.

Now, even with these instructions, some chapter presidents or ex-presidents just won't follow through with the request. So, if you notice that your chapter's president is incorrectly listed in the Council/Chapter directory, PLEASE inform Mitch Bent at the address or phone number listed. It's better to have too much communication than not enough.

Changing address? Do it right!

If you're changing your address, here are the proper rules to follow in order to continue receiving communications from Trout Unlimited.

1. Send notices of address changes directly to the T.U. National office. That address is: Trout Unlimited Membership Service, 14101 Parke Long Court, Chantilly, VA 22021-1645.

2. Include your eight-digit T.U. identification number with change of address notice. It is found on the upper left hand corner of mailing labels attached to TROUT magazine, Wisconsin Trout newspaper or your chapter newsletter.

3. If you are moving to a different

city within Wisconsin and wish to be affiliated with the T.U. chapter in your area, make note of that, too, and include the three-digit chapter identification number of the new chapter into which you are transferring.

4. If you have any questions, you may call Mitch Bent at (715) 524-5886. BUT...you should not send notice of address changes to him. They will not be accepted; rather, they will be returned to the sender. All notice of address changes should go directly to T.U. National. T.U. National's Phone Number: (703) 522-0200 * FAX (703) 284-9400.

WISCONSIN TROUT

is the official publication of the Wisconsin Council of Trout Unlimited. Issues are distributed to all members of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited chapters. Publication and distribution dates are the first weeks of January, April, July and October. Deadlines for articles and advertisements are the 10th of December, March, June and September, respectively. Advertising rate sheet available upon request. Contributions and letters-to-the-editor are welcomed and encouraged. Submit articles and returnable photos or slides (color or black-and-white) to editor for consideration.

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11 to 24 column inches (24" = quarter page) \$4.50/column inch
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Send all advertising and payments to: TROUT UNLIMITED, c/o Mitchell Bent, 935 S. Union St., Shawano, WI 54166, phone (715) 524-5886.

Send all change of address notices to: Trout Unlimited Membership Service Center; 14101 Parke Long Court, Chantilly, VA 22021-1645. Include your T.U. identification number with all notices of address change.

Mitch Bent, Editor
935 South Union St.
Shawano, WI 54166
(715) 524-5886

Wisconsin Trout Unlimited Council Officers

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11 Schmidt Ave., #6
Rothschild, WI 54474

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143 Water St. #108
Berlin, WI 54923

G. Topf Wells, Vice-Chairman
4914 Marathon Drive
Madison, WI 53705

Ward Cox
N18690 Ten Acre Rd.,
Goodman, WI. 54175

Letters to the Editor

Lakeshore was there

Editor, Wisconsin Trout:

In the Spring, 1994, issue of Wisconsin Trout, page 14, it was reported that the Lakeshore Chapter did not have representation at the January 29, 1994, State Council meeting.

For the record, please be advised that I did attend the meeting as a representative of the Lakeshore T.U. Chapter. Perhaps our omission was an oversight, or else I didn't sign on properly. In any event, I'm sure you would like to know that our chapter was represented.

Sincerely,
Doug Leppanen
2638 N. 20th
Sheboygan, WI 53083

Ed. note: Sorry about the omission. Perhaps I read the list incorrectly. In any event, we will continue to list chapters that do not have representatives at State Council meetings. Perhaps that will encourage chapters to carry out their responsibilities to the State Council. Again, apologies to Lakeshore T.U.

Crandon Mining Co. says...

Editor, Wisconsin Trout:

In the past several months, I have talked to hundreds of people about the proposed Crandon zinc and copper mine. The feedback, pro and con, has been valuable, and I hope local residents will keep on speaking freely as we go through the permitting process. I hear many questions about how our mine might affect the Wolf River, and a number of people have mentioned news reports saying we might discharge pollutants that would hurt the river's water quality and fishery. I would like to make our position clear on that issue.

1. The Wolf River will be protected, absolutely, or there will be no Crandon mine.

The Wolf is one of Wisconsin's finest streams, and the state's residents--tourists, boaters, fishermen, Native Americans, resort owners and others--have a right to demand that it be safeguarded. Most of the Wolf is included in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system, and the stream is also classified as an Outstanding Resource Water (ORW), which gives it special protection. Under ORW rules, any water discharged into the Wolf must be as clean as or cleaner than the water in the stream. The law on that point could not be more clear. The Wolf deserves its ORW status. We will not ask that it be reconsidered. We will not ask that it be amended. We will accept it as a condition of doing business.

2. Options for managing treated mine water are still under study. Discharge into a Wolf River tributary is only one option.

During mine operation, we will collect groundwater that flows into the mine workings and comes in contact with the ore. Before discharge, we will treat this water and test it to be sure it meets quality standards. Our preliminary plan calls for releasing treated water that is excess to our needs into Swamp Creek, which flows into the Wolf River. During the permit process, the Department of Natural Resources will set water quality standards that the discharge must meet. These standards will be set to protect even the most sensitive life forms in Swamp Creek, and to prevent degradation of the Wolf under the ORW designation. We will design a treatment system that meets the standards, or we will find another way to manage the water.

3. Any treatment system we install must perform consistently.

The water treatment system will be monitored constantly to ensure that

water leaving the system meets the necessary standards all the time. **Anytime the water does not meet the standards, discharge will stop until the problem is found and corrected, even if that means shutting down the mine.**

4. These statements represent the commitment of Crandon Mining Company, and we reject any allegations to the contrary.

The protection of the Wolf River is a question not of "if" but of "how." State residents demand it and state law requires it. Therefore, we must ensure that adequate protection is designed into our operation. During the next year, with DNR review, we will do extensive studies aimed at devising a mine plan that includes the necessary safeguards for the Wolf River and the local environment in general. This process will include:

- Reviewing and testing proven water treatment technologies for performance and reliability under the Crandon mine's specific conditions.

- Testing and monitoring water quality in Swamp Creek, the Wolf River, and other area surface waters.

- Sampling fish and other organisms from the Swamp Creek and Wolf River drainage areas.

- Studying how the possible flow of groundwater into the mine would affect the levels of lakes, streams and wetlands.

- Developing a design for the Tailings Management Area to ensure that tailings are sealed in place for effective, permanent groundwater protection.

- Devising a reclamation plan that ensures the site's long-term environmental integrity and returns the land to productive use.

Under state law, Crandon Mining Company bears the burden of showing that we can operate in a manner consistent with sustaining environmental quality in the Northwoods. We welcome your involvement in the permitting process. We encourage you to share your thoughts on the studies we plan to conduct, and on things we might do during mine operation to increase your confidence that the environment will be protected. Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have questions about this matter, or any other facet of our proposed project.

Sincerely,
Jerry Goodrich, President
Crandon Mining Company
7 N. Brown St., 3rd Floor
Rhineland, WI 54501-0856

Reinvest in Wisconsin fishing

By Lee Kernen,
Director of DNR Bureau
of Fisheries Management

A lot of our fishing accounts are not in very good shape: We are spending fish as fast as we're earning them. Let me explain.

A fish population in a lake or stream is sort of like a savings account. Most years it earns some interest and produces a new hatch of young fish.

And just like a savings account, if you leave the interest in the bank, your account grows. Fish left in the lake grow too, and the number of larger fish increases.

But many of the game fish stocks in Wisconsin waters are overdrawn. Such waters contain lots of small fish, but usually they are panfish that never seem to get big enough to eat.

Gamefish like bass and walleyes are scarce in overdrawn waters and tend not to reproduce well. They rarely disappear completely, but neither do they become abundant enough to provide good fishing action.

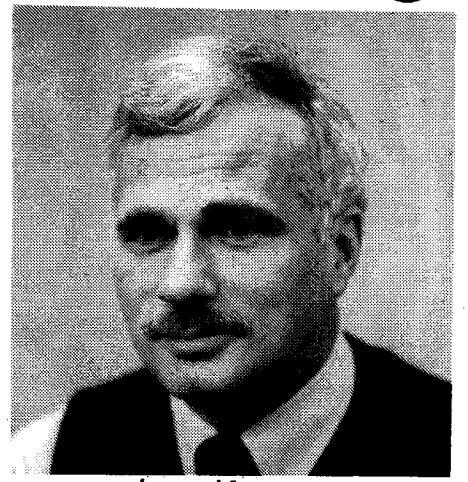
If we reinvest - or release some of the fish we catch - the populations in our lakes and streams will increase. This means that when you wet a line on your next trip you have a much better chance of catching some fish.

But there are other benefits as well. Higher populations of predator fish like walleye, bass and northern pike help keep panfish numbers down, improving the growth of those remaining. Some of our finest waters known for producing big panfish are also home to high-density walleye or bass populations.

With a savings account, it's hard for some people to leave that interest alone. In the short-term, we all enjoy using that money for something right now.

It's the same with fish, that 33 inch musky is legal and fun to show off back at home. But, wouldn't a nice photograph of that fish be just as good? To invest in the future, we all have to forego some immediate pleasures.

In fishing, this means we all have to



Lee Kernen

put some legal-sized fish back now and then. And I don't just mean an occasional walleye or barely legal musky. I mean all kinds of fish, even some nice panfish at times. We have to get out of this fill-the-freezer mentality and emphasize other fun aspects of fishing - not just the meat.

Bag limits are meant to be maximums, not a target to try and fulfill on each trip. Many of our bag limits, such as five gamefish or 50 panfish a day, were picked years ago simply because they were nice-sounding numbers. If everyone took his or her limits today we'd really be in sad shape because people outnumber fish in parts of Wisconsin!

That is why fishery biologists are working hard to develop meaningful size and bag limits for Wisconsin waters. The new regulations and size limits on bass, walleye and musky are all aimed to cut down harvest to make fishing better.

The next time you're really into the fish, please consider stopping after you have enough for a nice meal or two, then begin to practice catch-and-release. If more of our anglers did that, I guarantee our fishing would improve by a giant step. Let's reinvest in Wisconsin fishing to ensure a bright future for our young anglers and ourselves.

Tom Lawin, former NRB member, dies

Tom Lawin, a former member of the Natural Resources Board, passed away April 20th after a long struggle with cancer.

Appointed to the NRB in 1985 by former Governor Anthony Earl, Lawin served on the Board until 1991, and was chairman of the NRB in 1990.

Lawin was an exemplary member of the NRB, and was very dedicated to environmental protection and resource management. He had great respect for the professional management team of the Department of Natural Resources.

In commenting on Lawin's passing, current NRB chairman Herb Behnke of Shawano said, "The thing I admired

about Tom Lawin was that he always voted his conscience. He was never swayed by politics."

And Behnke added, "Once I asked Tom why he voted a certain way on an issue, and he simply said, 'Because it's the right thing to do.'"

Lawin was honored at the end of his term on the NRB by having a wildlife area in the Eau Claire area re-named the Tom Lawin Wildlife Area.

Lawin lived in Bloomer, and was publisher of a local newspaper.

Wisconsin Trout Unlimited sent a card of sympathy to his widow, and the Council mourns his passing.

WANTED:

TU member interested in buildable land or a cabin/house on a quality Wisconsin trout stream. If you're selling or know of available property, call 414-241-5220 or write: Trout Stream c/o 237 W. Aster Ln., Mequon, WI 53092.

Full agenda marks Council meeting

Trout regs, mining, Fort McCoy are main topics

The Wisconsin State Council of Trout Unlimited met on Saturday, May 21, at the Fort McCoy military establishment in Monroe County. All chapters were represented except for Antigo, Blackhawk, Harry Nohr, Oconto River Watershed and Wisconsin River Valley.

One of the primary topics for discussion and resolution at this meeting was establishment of a State Council position on modifications, if any, to the inland trout fishing regulations, which are up for review this year by Department of Natural Resources fishery staff. Also, the Council discussed its position on creating an alternative "early trout season" to the current one that will expire after this season.

With regard to the inland trout fishing regulations, the Council supported the following motions:

1. Eliminate the Category 1 (10 trout/day, no size limit) classification, but allow that regulation type to be used as a Category 5 ("Special Regulation") type for management purposes.

2. Continue using the Category 3 (three trout/day, nine-inch size limit) and Category 4 (three trout/day, eight-inch size limit on brooks, 12 inches on browns and rainbows) as separate categories rather than merging them into one category, pending results of DNR's ongoing research.

3. Support the Category 5 ("Special Regulation") waters classification, and urge the DNR to review the successes of these waters with an eye toward modifications or expansions of that category to other waters.

In addition, the Council indicated that it felt the DNR should look at entire watersheds when considering category listings, as migration of trout from waters with stricter creel limits to other streams, or segments thereof, with more liberal creel limits may negate the intent of the waters with stricter creel and size limits.

The Council also indicated that it would like to see an earlier opening to the trout season in a part of the state (undefined as yet) as long as decisions are biologically based.

Two presentations on environmental situations of importance to T.U. were made that day.

Jerry Goodrich, president of Crandon Mining Company, addressed the Council regarding the proposed zinc-copper mine near Crandon, Wisconsin. Goodrich noted that zinc would be the primary metallic ore mined from the deposit, but that lead, copper, gold and silver would also be extracted.

Goodrich stated that current plans

call for wastewater to be discharged into Swamp Creek, a tributary to the Wolf River, which is listed as an "Outstanding Resource Water" by the State of Wisconsin. He said that if the Wolf cannot be completely protected, there will be no mine.

Too, Goodrich said that Crandon Mining Company recognizes that the Wolf is an "Outstanding Resource Water", and that it would not attempt to persuade the Natural Resources Board or the Legislature to change the Wolf's ranking as such.

Concerns brought up by Council delegates regarding the mine included: prevention of sulfuric acid formation, which could enter into discharge waters; warmwater discharges; past history and poor track records of iron sulfite mines; alternatives to wastewater discharge into Swamp Creek (a Class II trout water); air quality; recycling of existing waste metals; and long-term liability of mining companies for mines.

Earlier in the day, Council representatives heard from Fort McCoy biologists Kim Mello and John Noble about conservation and environmental remediation work being done on Fort McCoy lands, particularly with regard to the La Crosse River.

The biologists pointed out that impoundments and bridges are being removed from the La Crosse River, and biological research is being carried out. The Fort's North Impact Area, which contains the La Crosse River, is currently undergoing a natural healing process. However, even though a buffer zone of 150 meters on both sides of the river has been established to prevent further damage to the river and riparian zone, the biologists said that they are unable to enter that area to do research, because of the danger from unexploded shells existing in the stream and nearby banks.

Other concerns regarding the La Crosse River mentioned by Mello and Noble included levels of heavy metals and pesticides that may come from adjacent agricultural lands, and turbidity that may enter the river from its tributary streams (Silver, Squaw and Tarr creeks).

The Fort's goal is to continue monitoring the river through 1996, evaluate results and then implement best management practices to reduce negative impacts of Fort operations on the La Crosse River.

The council also approved several motions for funding, including:

1. \$3,000 from the general fund to assist with legal costs concerning development along Black Earth Creek in



Steve Born of Madison is the new T.U. Midwest Region Vice President.

Dane County (see separate article for details), providing that a summary of the legal precedent be given the State Council for future use;

2. \$2,000 total (\$1,000 each from the general fund and "Friends of Wisconsin T.U." fund) to assist with the purchase of 64(+) acres of land along Upper Middle Inlet Creek in Marinette County; and

3. \$1,000 from the general fund to assist with research by the UW-Extension (Tourism and Research) on a national demonstration project in western Wisconsin (the Coulee Region) that would assess the economic impact that a revived trout fishery would have on that region.

Other committees reporting were:

Membership - Wisconsin T.U. has increased by 100 total members in the first half of 1994;

Youth Education - most chapters are conducting some type of youth education programs, from fishing days for kids to scholarships to distribution of conservation education materials in schools and libraries;

Awards/Banquet - The Council will seek to have an awards ceremony and banquet in winter of 1995 (date and location not yet established), and Awards chairman Larry Meicher will seek nominations from chapters in ear-

ly October for the various award categories that the State Council has;

"Catch-and-Release" - The committee has distributed about 40,000 "Catch-and-Release" brochures and is looking for feedback from the chapters. Also, the committee is looking into the production of a video tape on "catch-and-release" techniques by working in conjunction with T.U. National or the Wisconsin DNR.

Council Chairman Forrest Grulke made note that immediate past Council chairman Steve Born of Madison has been elected the Midwest Region Vice President for T.U. National.

The next State Council meeting has been scheduled for August 27 in Avalanche (Vernon County) at the West Fork Sportsmen's Club. Primary focus of that meeting will be the rehabilitation work done to date on the West Fork of the Kickapoo River, and the potential for additional coldwater resource restoration work in the Coulee Region.

At that meeting, the Council will host T.U. National Executive Director Charles Gauvin and Wisconsin DNR Secretary George Meyer.

A notice of meeting times and exact locations will be forthcoming to chapters at a future date.

Natural Resources Board Directory

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Proper release techniques can save trout

Former Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources coldwater research team leader **Bob Hunt** provided information last year to Trout Unlimited and the general angling public about the post-release mortality (PRM) on trout caught and released by anglers in Wisconsin.

Hunt estimated that PRM accounts for well over 400,000 dead trout in Wisconsin annually, and his estimate is a conservative one, he says.

The calculations that Hunt used to come up with the level of PRM on trout in Wisconsin are quite lengthy, and will not be listed here. Should anyone want to have a copy of Hunt's calculations and the assumptions made in his determinations, please send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: **Mitch Bent, 935 S. Union St., Shawano, WI 54166.** A copy of that information will be sent immediately.

Subsequent to receiving that information, Wisconsin T.U. put together a "Catch-and-Release" study committee headed by **Jim Hlaban, 1421 Silverwood, Neenah, WI 54956.** Hlaban's committee came up with a well-

done yet succinct pamphlet that describes the proper techniques that should be used to prevent PRM on trout.

The five steps for proper handling are shown here. While each one is important, Step 5 is probably one of the more critical ones that T.U. members and all other trout anglers should remember.

That's because the "catch-and-release" philosophy that is growing today has caused too many anglers to hold their catches for lengthy periods of time in order to admire the fish caught or to have photos taken of the fish.

Just remember that fish do NOT get oxygen from the air; they get it from extracting dissolved oxygen (DO) from the water as it passes over their gills. Keeping a fish out of water is analogous to holding the head of a human being under water. If either is done for too long, the fish or human will perish.

Catch-and-release is certainly a worthwhile thing to do in order to save what's left of our coldwater trout fishery. But unless it's done right, C &

R can cause excessive trout mortality. Follow the five steps listed here, and you can give extra assurance that the trout you release will be alive to fight another day or to spawn and produce future generations of trout.

And, try one other thing that's not listed here. Use barbless hooks. They're easier to remove from a fish, and they hold nearly as well as do barbed hooks. Try it; you'll like it!

FOLLOW THESE FIVE STEPS:

1. Do not play fish to exhaustion and use a landing net.

2. Handle fish in net. Grasp across back & head.

3. Turn fish belly-up while removing hooks.

4. Do not remove swallowed hooks ... cut the line.

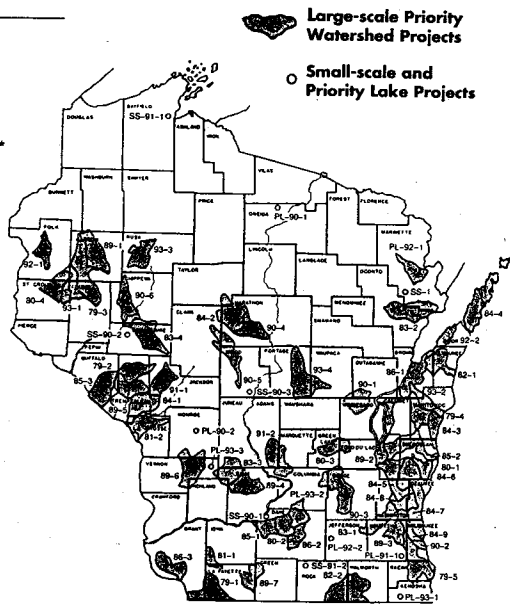
5. Do not keep fish out of water more than 10 to 15 seconds.

TROUT ANGLERS ALERT - PLEASE HELP

CONSIDER PROPER RELEASE

Priority Watershed Projects in Wisconsin 1993

Map Number Year Selected	Watershed Project
79-1	Galena River*
79-2	Elk Creek*
79-3	Hay River*
79-4	Lower Manitowoc River*
79-5	Root River*
80-1	Onion River*
80-2	Sixmile-Pheasant Branch Creek*
80-3	Big Green Lake*
80-4	Upper Willow River*
81-1	Upper West Branch* Pecatonica River*
81-2	Lower Black River*
82-1	Kewaunee River*
82-2	Turtle Creek
83-1	Oconomowoc River
83-2	Little River
83-3	Crossman Creek/Little Baraboo River
83-4	Lower Eau Claire River
84-1	Beaver Creek
84-2	Upper Big Eau Pleine River
84-3	Sevenmile-Silver Creeks
84-4	Upper Door Peninsula
84-5	East and West Branch Milwaukee River
84-6	North Branch Milwaukee River
84-7	Milwaukee River South
84-8	Cedar Creek
84-9	Menomonee River
85-1	Black Earth Creek
85-2	Sheboygan River
85-3	Waumondee Creek
86-1	East River
86-2	Yahara River-Lake Monona
86-3	Lower Grant River
89-1	Yellow River
89-2	Lake Winnebago East
89-3	Upper Fox River (Ill.)
89-4	Narrows Creek-Baraboo River
89-5	Middle Trempealeau River
89-6	Middle Kickapoo River
89-7	Lower East Branch Pecatonica River
90-1	Arrowhead River and Daggetts Creek
90-2	Kinnickinnic River
90-3	Beaverdam River
90-4	Lower Big Eau Pleine River
90-5	Upper Yellow River
90-6	Duncan Creek
91-1	Upper Trempealeau River
91-2	Neenah Creek
92-1	Balsam Branch
92-2	Red River-Little Sturgeon Bay
93-1	South Fork Hay River
93-2	Branch River
93-3	Soft Maple/Hay Creek
93-4	Tomorrow/Waupaca River



Map Number	Small-Scale Priority Watershed Project
SS-1	Bass Lake*
SS-90-1	Dunlap Creek
SS-90-2	Lowes Creek
SS-90-3	Wood County Groundwater Prototype
SS-91-1	Whittlesey Creek
SS-91-2	Spring Creek

Map Number	Priority Lake Project
PL-90-1	Minocqua Lake
PL-90-2	Lake Tamah
PL-91-1	Little Muskego, Big Muskego and Wind Lakes
PL-92-1	Lake Noquebay
PL-92-2	Lake Ripley
PL-93-1	Camp/Center Lakes
PL-93-2	Lake Mendota
PL-93-3	Hillsboro Lake

*Project completed

Natural Resources Board notes

Since the last issue of Wisconsin Trout, the Natural Resources Board, which governs the Department of Natural Resources, has taken action on the following items relating to the state's trout fishery and water quality.

Stream Bank Acquisition Program: At the March NRB meeting, the Board approved a staff proposal to enter segments of 19 streams and the St. Louis and Red River watersheds of northwest Wisconsin into the "Stream Bank Acquisition Program". One stream originally sought for inclusion into the program - **Halls Creek in Jackson County** - was removed from the list due to adjacent landowner objections.

Another stream - the **East Branch of the Eau Claire River in Langlade County** - was temporarily removed from the list so that the DNR could explain the program more thoroughly to landowners in that watershed. The NRB will likely act to include the East Branch of the Eau Claire River in the program later this fall (see related article).

The Stream Bank Protection Program was originally established in July of 1990 as the "Stream Bank Easement Program", one of the 12 elements of the Stewardship Program. The Legislature revised the program in 1992 to authorize the state to purchase stream-bank property.

The focus of the new program is to protect critically threatened streams that are high quality waters, as well as to purchase property along degraded streams to rehabilitate them. Under the acquisition program, some 766 miles of streams were nominated for protection, from which the DNR chose 21 streams covering more than 159 miles.

The largest single project proposed is the St. Louis and Red River watershed in northwestern Douglas County. It totals about 7,000 acres, with five miles of the St. Louis River and 13 miles of the Red River and its tributaries.

Streambank projects selected by DNR district include:

Northwest District: St. Louis and

Red River - Douglas County; Onion River - Bayfield County.

North Central District: Ten Mile Creek - Wood County; East Branch Eau Claire River (*) - Langlade County. (*) = temporarily removed from list.

Western District: Kinnickinnic River - St. Croix and Pierce counties; Lowes Creek - Eau Claire County; Rush Creek - Crawford and Vernon counties; Sand Creek - Jackson and Monroe counties.

Southern District: Allen Creek - Rock County; Anthony Branch - Dane County; Deer Creek/Frye Feeder - Dane County; Harrison Creek - Sauk County; Spring Creek - Rock County; Story Creek - Dane and Green counties; Sugar River - Dane County; Yellowstone and Canon Creeks - Lafayette County.

Southeast District: Cedar Creek - Washington County; Honey Creek - Walworth County; North Branch Milwaukee River - Sheboygan County; Onion River - Sheboygan County.

Most of the above-named streams are part or all trout water.

Land acquisitions, easements
Knapp Creek (Crawford County) - The Board approved purchase of a fish management easement on 4.74 acres of lands through which runs **Knapp Creek**, a Class II brown trout stream. The easement includes 1,235 feet of two-bank frontage on Knapp Creek, and 330 feet of two-bank frontage on Plum Run, a Class II feeder of Knapp Creek. Also included in the easement is one large spring and 165 feet of spring run.

Pike Wild River (Marinette County) - The Board approved four separate land parcel purchases along the **Pike River** for a total of \$461,000. The acquisitions include acreage along the main Pike River downstream from its confluence with **Slough Creek** (2.078), acreage along the **South Branch of the Pike** (1.2) and acreage along the **North Branch of the Pike** (76.19). The latter includes 2,800 feet of frontage along the North Branch of the Pike and an additional 3,740 feet of frontage along **Whiskey Creek**, a feeder to the North Branch.

Additions to priority watersheds

Two additional watersheds having known trout populations have been added to the list of "Priority Watersheds" in Wisconsin.

The **South Fork Hay River** is a large-scale watershed located in Dunn, St. Croix and Barron counties, for the most part, with a small segment in Polk County. The watershed includes 119 stream miles, most of which support a brook or brown trout fishery.

Eroded streambanks and silted streambeds have hurt the water quality of that watershed, and Glen Hills Lake, an 80-acre impoundment in the south-

west region of the watershed, has suffered from sedimentation problems.

Soft Maple-Hay Creek is located in northwestern Rusk County, which has never had a Priority Watershed project until this one. The project includes several streams that have been adversely impacted by cattle operations, including **Alder, Becky, Clear and Devils creeks**, all trout streams. The trout fisheries in those streams have been seriously threatened by bank erosion, habitat destruction, excessive nutrient loading and pasturing.

The watershed also includes a segment of the **Chippewa River**.

Can wild rainbows

Wolf River T.U., Menominee tribe

The Wolf River is synonymous with wildness and beauty. Flowing through eastern Langlade County and the Menominee Indian reservation, the mighty Wolf has been a mecca for Midwestern trout anglers since the 1920's, though only that part of it in Langlade County is open to fishing by non-tribal citizens.

The composition of the fishery of the Wolf has changed over the years. It was an outstanding brook trout fishery early on before dams creating Upper and Lower Post lakes changed the river's thermal regimes.

Brown Trout were introduced into the Wolf in the 1930's, and have become the dominant salmonid species in the river since then.

But the Wolf once had a thriving population of rainbow trout, a population that was self-sustaining. Introduced in the early 1900's into the Evergreen River (a Wolf River tributary), the rainbows migrated downstream to the Wolf River - Evergreen River confluence near Sullivan Falls in the Menominee reservation, and then distributed themselves upstream into the Langlade County portion of the Wolf River.

However, the severe drought of the 1930's played havoc with the trout populations in the Wolf, and the rainbows were especially hard hit. Once the drought ended, the Wisconsin Conservation Department (precursor of today's Department of Natural Resources)

ces) began the brown trout stocking program for the Wolf, and interest in the rainbows began to wane.

But that did not mean the end of the rainbows in the Wolf.

Herb Buettner, president of the Wolf River T.U. Chapter, had talked with friends of the Menominee tribal nation, and was told by them that a fair population of naturally-reproducing rainbows inhabited the Wolf where it flows through the reservation. These trout spawned in one of the lake tributaries feeding the Wolf River, and the tribal members surmised that these fish were descendants of the original strain of rainbows that were stocked in the Wolf early in this century.

From this information, Buettner developed an idea to take eggs from the wild rainbows of the Wolf, fertilize them, and rear them for future stocking of small rainbows in the upper Wolf River. If the fish took to that part of the river, Buettner figured, perhaps a self-sustaining population of rainbows could be nurtured in that section of the Wolf.

Working with other T.U. members, Menominee tribal conservation officials and Antigo Area DNR fish manager **Max Johnson**, Buettner got things underway in 1992.

That first year produced only education, though. Operating under the notion that rainbows begin spawning when the water temperature (in spring) hits 50 degrees, Buettner's team never



Wally Cox (l) and Duane Schenk (r) with funnel net used to collect rainbow spawners.

got started until the latter third of April. By then, only a very few rainbows were observed in the tributary stream where they spawn, and those trout were soon pushed aside by spawning suckers.

In 1993, the crew began earlier, about April 8th, and they discovered that the rainbows started their spawning process when water temperatures hit 42 degrees. Menominee tribal warden **Wally Cox**, Wolf River T.U. member **Duane Schenk** and Buettner installed "funnel traps" to capture the fish, and in three days they were able to corner 13 rainbows that were held for

spawning.

With additional help from another T.U. member, **Harold Levin**, and **Bob Gress** of the Polar (Wisconsin) fish hatchery, the incubation facet of the program was laid out, and the crew was then able to fertilize about 3,000 eggs. Later, 15 more spawners were trapped, and another 3,000 eggs were fertilized.

All mature rainbows were later released back into the tributary system.

The "rainbow coalition" looked after their project through the successful hatching of the eggs. The fry were reared throughout the spring and sum-

The rustle of current
and a big fish
rising

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off to the side, measuring the distance.

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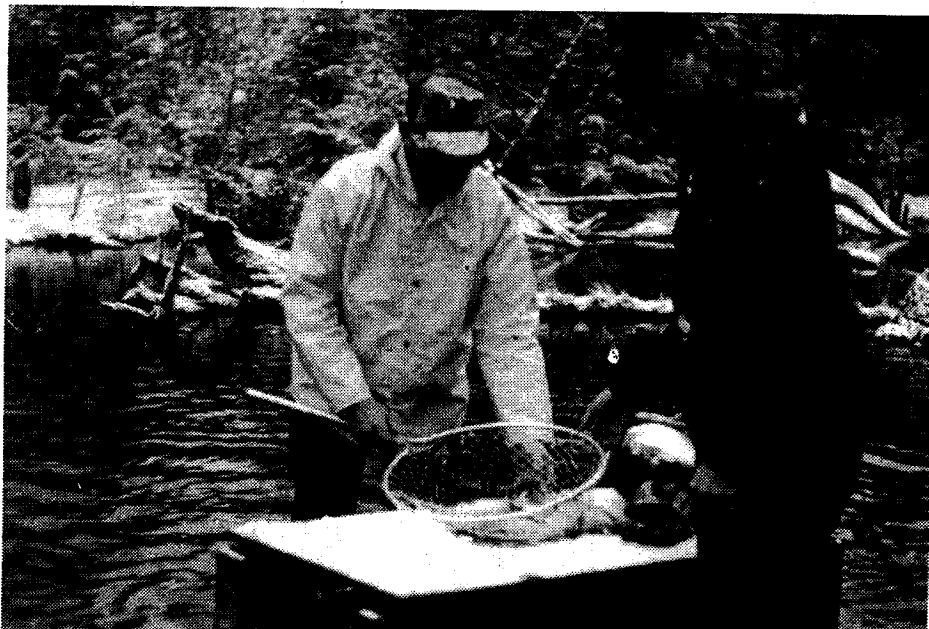
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Herb Buettner (l) and Menominee Tribal Warden Wally Cox (r) with rainbows captured from Wolf River in Menominee Reservation.



"The Rainbow Coalition" (l-r): Wally Cox (Menominee Tribal Warden), Duane Schenk (Wolf River T.U. member), Herb Buettner (Wolf River T.U. president), and Leon Fowler (Chief Tribal Warden of the Menominees).

return to the wolf?

work together on project

mer, and were tested by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to determine if they were disease-free. That testing was done in September of 1993, and the results showed that no diseases were present in the fish.

Buettner's program called for 25 percent of the developed fish to be returned to the Menominee tribe for stocking in their reservation tributaries and the Wolf, as the huge populations of suckers seemed to have an adverse impact to the wild rainbow population of the Wolf in the reservation.

The remaining fish were held over fall, winter and spring at Augustyn Springs hatchery west of Lily in Langlade County for stocking in the Wolf this year.

In addition to all this, Buettner and crew received permission to stock rainbows from the Trout Haven Hatchery (belonging to Bob Gress) into the Wolf. Gress had felt that the genetic strains of those rainbows would produce a non-migratory fish capable of natural reproduction.

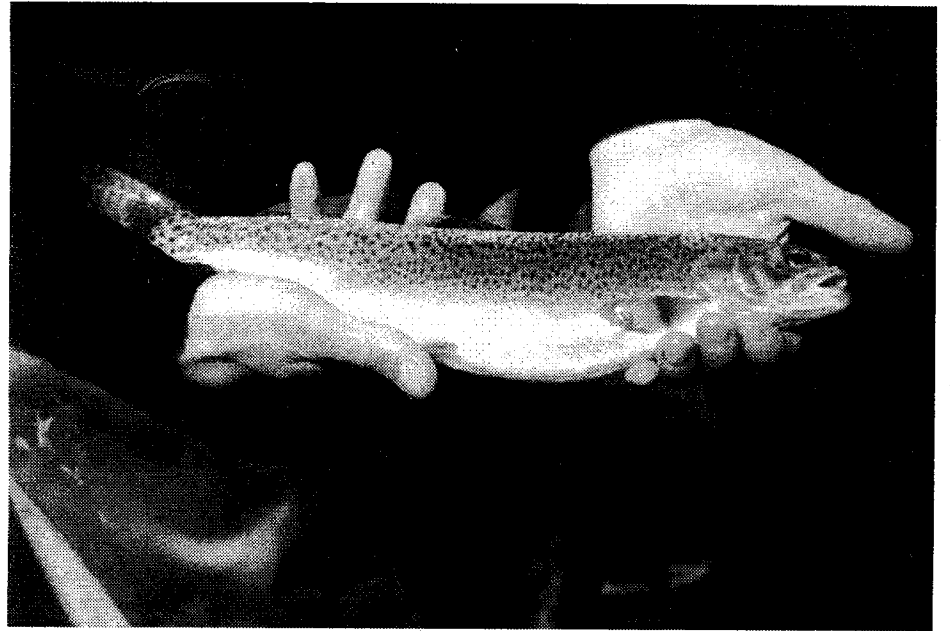
That effort was carried out in early June of 1993, right before torrential rains raised the water level of the Wolf by 17 inches.

The fish, stocked from Hollister down through an area below the irrigation hole (i.e., primarily through the

Category 5 "catch-and-release" stretch of the Wolf), held their own during the high water period, and reports back from Anglers who'd caught some of the rainbows stated that the fish hit better than the browns in the river and were quite scrappy.

The rainbows hatched from wild stock in the Wolf were to be stocked this May of 1994, with about 200 wild fingerlings to be held in reserve by the DNR to hold over for spawners in case something went awry with the original plan. In another two years, rainbow spawners will be taken from the river, and their eggs will be hatched and reared as was done with the original number of wild rainbows taken from Menominee reservation waters. The hatched fry will then be stocked back into the Wolf with the hopes of building up a sustainable rainbow trout population.

By so doing, surviving spawners will be ones with superior genetic characteristics that will pass on their genes to future offspring that may populate the Wolf, thus negating the need for costly stocking programs. The project may take five or more years before results are recognized, but Buettner and his group believe that any success achieved will be worth the wait.



Wolf River rainbow captured for spawning project.

Wisconsin TU'er wins "Knot Challenge"

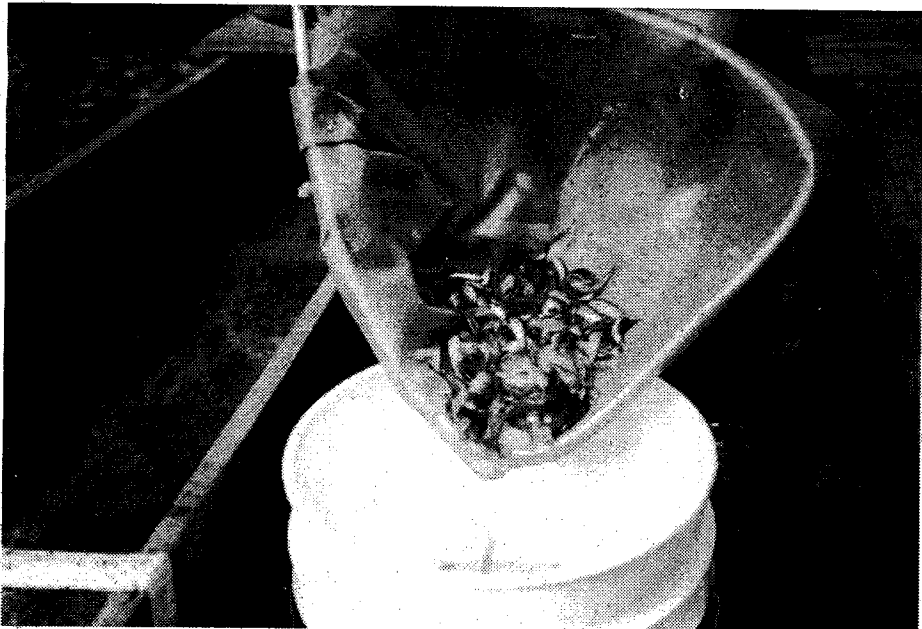
Wisconsin Trout Unlimited member Larry Becker of Rockford, Illinois, was named the winner of the "Orvis Knot Challenge" that appeared in the June, 1993, issue of Orvis News.

Becker's improved figure-8 knot for tying leader to fly was tested and proven to be the winner among 32 total entries of various forms of knots.

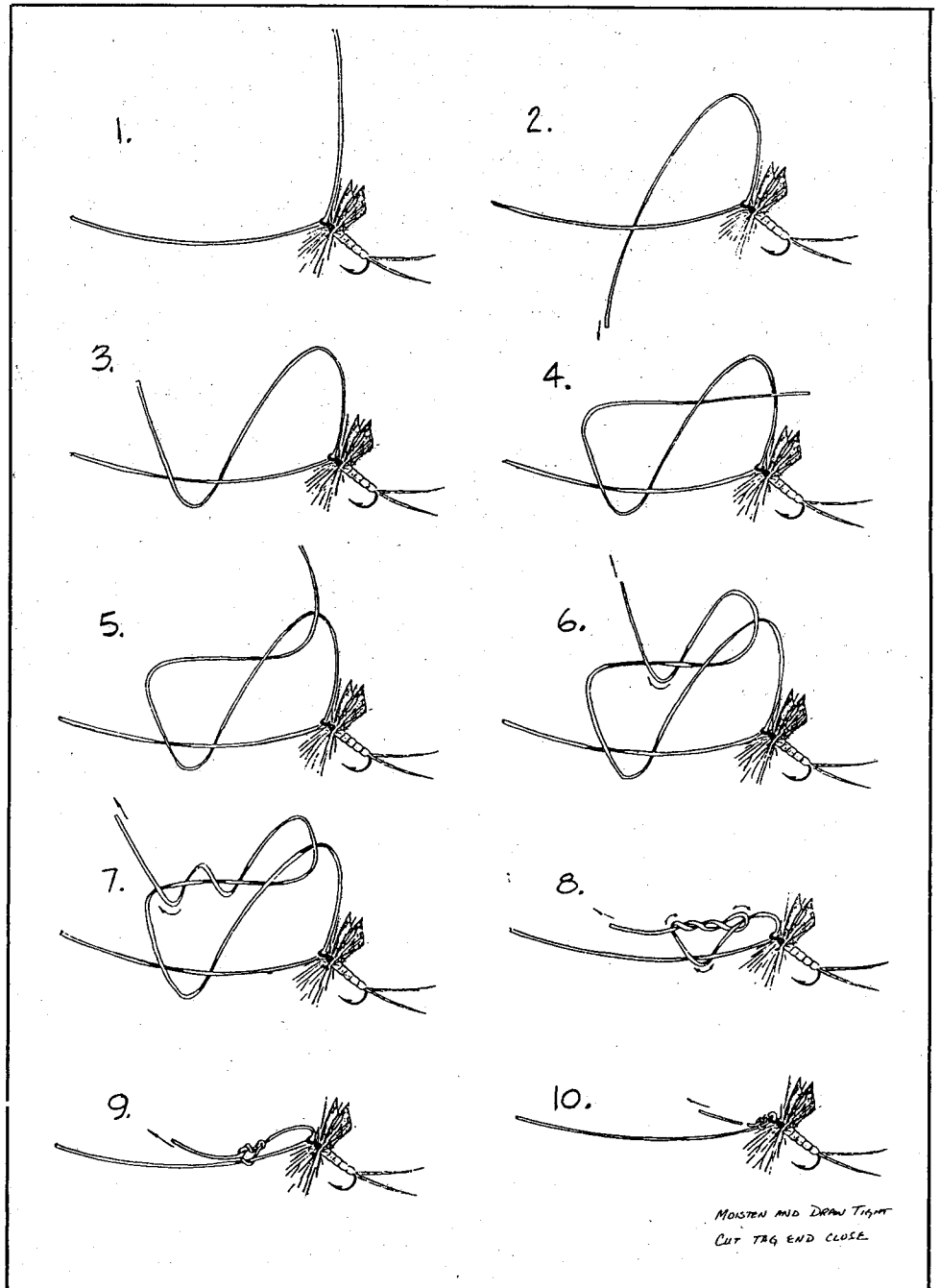
Becker received an Orvis Power

Matrix 905 outfit for winning the contest. His knot, as depicted in the drawings, tested consistently at 100 percent knot strength (i.e., leader breaking before the knot does).

Larry is one of the founding members of the Blackhawk T.U. Chapter headquartered in Janesville, Wisconsin.



Rainbow trout fry from project to be stocked in Wolf River in the Menominee Reservation.



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ALDO LEOPOLD CHAPTER

No report

ANTIGO CHAPTER

The chapter held a Kids Fishing Day June 18th at Antigo Lake, an impoundment on Spring Brook which runs through Antigo. The chapter stocked trout, provided free food and beverages to kids and awarded prizes. Local DNR staff also sponsored a casting contest for kids. Major sponsors included Animal's Bar & Grill and Sheldon's, Inc. (makers of Mepps spinners).

A work day on the East Branch Eau Claire River was planned for late June to check on half-logs that had previous-

ly been installed in the stream.

Several chapter members attended the April 14th public information meeting in Antigo regarding inclusion of the East Branch Eau Claire River in the state's Stream Bank Protection Program.

Chapter president Scott Henricks mentions that trout stamp sales in the Antigo area must be up, as the number of trout anglers out and about seems much higher than in previous years.

BLACKHAWK CHAPTER

No report

CENTRAL WISCONSIN CHAPTER

The chapter held its annual banquet on March 26th at the Oshkosh Hilton and Convention Center. The event was a financial success, and attendees were also treated to an entertaining dissertation on trout fishing by well-known outdoor writer and humorist Galen Winter.

A highlight of that evening was the presentation of two scholarships to graduate students, a first-time event for the chapter. The chapter was able to expand the Bill Beck Memorial Scholarship since the fund has risen in past years due to the increasing success of the chapter's annual Fly Fishing School.

Spring workdays included habitat work on Emmons Creek (Waupaca

County), Bowers Creek (Waushara County) and Caves Creek (Marquette County). Future work projects will include installation of waterfront docks at Camp Hiwela and cleanup of winter storm damage at a facility on Round Lake near Wild Rose.

The chapter's annual Fly Fishing School was held June 3-5. Response to the school increased this year due to good publicity in Wisconsin Trout and T.U. National's TROUT magazine, so much so that enrollment applications had to be cut off and a waiting list started for the 1995 school.

At the May meeting, Ed Avery of the DNR's Coldwater Fishery Research Unit spoke to the group regarding the inland trout regulations and possible revisions.

COULEE REGION CHAPTER

The Coulee Region Chapter held their annual banquet May 18th. Banquet results were not available at press time.

The chapter was pleased to be able to be the host for the May 21st Wisconsin T.U. State Council meeting held at Fort McCoy.

FOX VALLEY CHAPTER

The chapter held elections on April 21st, with Gene Weber succeeding Tom Beyer as chapter president. The chapter's March 11th banquet was successful, netting about \$5,500 for conservation work.

Fox Valley T.U. hosted a variety of youth activities in the last few months, including: a handicapped fishing outing at K & S Game Farm on April 30th; a "Big Brothers, Big Sisters" fishing event May 14th; and a "Take A Kid Fishing Day" with the Appleton Parks

Department on June 4th.

A work day on a Fort McCoy stream was held May 21, and work on the Tomorrow River was held June 4th. Several other workdays were scheduled for summer.

At the April chapter meeting, members were treated to a program on "Yellowstone Trout Fishing". Chapter meetings will commence again in September, with a program on "Mining in Wisconsin".

FRANK HORNBERG CHAPTER

The chapter's second annual Conservation Banquet was a success, netting the chapter about \$3,600. Awards presented at the event included the chapter's Merit Award to vice-president/treasurer Ken Kreager for his tireless efforts on behalf of the chapter, and an Appreciation Award to charter member George Rogers for his work in publicizing chapter activities.

The chapter approved an appropriation of \$1,500 to assist Northeastern Wisconsin T.U. chapters with the purchase of 64(+) acres of land along Upper Middle Inlet Creek in Marinette County.

The third annual Frank Hornberg T.U. "Kids' Fishing Day" with the Portage County Big Brothers/Big Sisters group was held June 18th on the

Wisconsin River in Stevens Point.

A unique idea the chapter has "spawned" is to schedule a cooperative project with Camp Helen Brockman. Chapter members will provide ecology lectures and insights to inner city youth in exchange for an expanded work force at the planned August 20th work project on the Middle Tomorrow River.

Speaking of work projects, the chapter is expanding the effort on the Middle Tomorrow River by working with the DNR. The DNR will install two bank structures, and chapter members will complete the work.

Work is continuing on Peterson Creek (Waupaca County), with work on Ten Mile Creek (Wood County) set to go later this summer.

GREEN BAY CHAPTER

The chapter's annual banquet held March 16th attracted over 500 attendees, and netted Green Bay T.U. a little over \$20,000. Next year's event is slated for Saturday, March 18, at the

Embassy Suites Motel in Green Bay.

Chapter elections resulted in the election of Tom Dretzke and Pat Hill to the Board of Directors for three-year terms.



Green Bay T.U.'er Bob Heim (l) receives "Conservationist of the Year" Award from the Brown County Conservation Alliance and its president, Bruce Deuchert (r).

The chapter continued its work on the "Educational Trout Stream" display at the Brown County Reforestation Camp, with several work days held. Chapter Youth/Education coordinator, Bob Heim, who has directed this project, received the award of "Conservationist of the Year" from the Brown County Conservation Alliance for his efforts in that regard (see photo).

Green Bay T.U. appropriated \$5,000 to assist the Marinette County Chapter with the purchase of 64(+) acres of land along Upper Middle Inlet Creek in northern Marinette County. The land adjoins other acreage previously bought by T.U. which was later donated to the DNR. This land will also be turned over to the DNR once the purchase is finalized.

Habitat improvement projects scheduled for summer include work on the First South Branch Oconto River (part of a Challenge Grant Project with the U.S. Forest Service) and McCaslin Brook (both in Oconto County), and restoration work on the Beaver Creek (its branches and tributaries) near the site of the former

Evergreen Trout Hatchery which was bought by the DNR last year, with the intent of dismantling it in order to improve the water quality of Walker Creek (which flows through the hatchery).

Chapter meetings included an April slide program by member Tom Mertens on Western trout fishing and a May cookout at the Reforestation Camp. No meetings will be held in summer, but they will begin again in September.

The chapter hired beaver trapper Jerry Giese to trap beaver and remove dams on the Thunder River system in Oconto and Marinette counties. At press time, 33 beaver had been trapped, with the largest weighing 70 pounds. Six dams have been removed from the system.

In August, the chapter will once again co-host a "Kids Fishing Day" with the Green Bay Exchange Club for children enrolled in the Brown County Social Services' "PALS" Program. The event, including a picnic supper, will be held at the Brown County Reforestation Camp.

HARRY NOHR CHAPTER

No report

KIAP-TU-WISH CHAPTER

In March, new officers were installed for Kiap-TU-Wish T.U. They are: President - Gary Horvath; Vice president - Tony Stifter; Secretary - Ken Hanson; and Treasurer - Tom Battey.

Chapter members had some good programs at spring meetings. In April, many fly tyers gave demonstrations of their tying prowess and displayed patterns that work on local streams. In May, Ken Schreiber of the DNR gave a report on the 1993 temperature study on the Willow River and the Little Falls Impoundment. That study was inconclusive insofar as temperature impacts of the dam's overflow into the Willow because of last year's unseasonably cool and wet summer. The chapter will continue to work with the DNR on the effects of dam operations on the thermal regimes of the Willow/Race system.

The chapter was pleased that the River Falls City Council reversed a previous decision and voted to adopt a stormwater management plan. This clears the way for Pierce and St. Croix counties to petition the DNR for priority watershed status for the Kinnickinnic River.

Chapter member Kent Johnson has worked closely with the City of River Falls and their consultant on this plan. Kiap-TU-Wish T.U. provided temperature data on the "Kinni" through their network of continuous monitors located along the river. The purchase of another monitor was authorized by the chapter's Board of Directors for the Rocky Branch, a coldwater tributary to the "Kinni" within the developing area of River Falls.

This will allow the chapter to obtain baseline data on this important feeder to the "Kinni".

LAKESHORE CHAPTER

Lakeshore T.U. was ecstatic about its 1994 fund-raising banquet held March 12th at the Club Bil-Mar in Manitowoc. A crowd of 327 people helped the chapter raise over \$9,500, a new chapter record.

Chapter outings during spring and early summer included: an April 10 steelhead outing at Cato Falls Park; a casting clinic on May 9th that drew 18

participants who were instructed by member Louie Jirikowic; the annual family outing held June 13th at the property of Rick and Cindy Powalisz; and a June 25th outing to the Oconto River.

Projects scheduled for summer include: 1) installing cattle fencing and watering pumps and doing bank restoration work on Silver Creek in Manito-

ited Chapter reports

woc County; and 2) doing stream narrowing, streamside brushing and installation of brush bundles on the Mullet River in Sheboygan County.

At the May meeting, Lakeshore T.U. voted to appropriate an additional \$1,500 for the renovation of the trout

and salmon rearing ponds (for Lake Michigan stocking) in Manitowoc.

Chapter members appeared to support the proposed Manitowoc-Branch River Fishery Area at a public meeting held June 7th in Manitowoc County.

MARINETTE COUNTY CHAPTER

The chapter's March 7th annual banquet turned out to be the most profitable one to date, with \$15,723 raised. Plans are already in the works for next year's event.

With that profit, the chapter has made some sizeable appropriations for conservation work that include: 1) \$15,000 toward purchase of 64(+) acres of land along Supper Middle Inlet Creek south of Wausaukee in Marinette County (other chapters and the State Council are assisting in the \$27,500 cost); 2) \$1,500 toward funding habitat work on Brule Creek in northern Forest County; 3) \$1,145 to install a sediment trap and cattle gate along the South Branch Beaver Creek in Oconto County; 4) \$533 to place a video cassette of "The Way of a Trout" in each of the 24 public and parochial schools in Marinette County and the City of Menominee, MI; and 5) \$300 to support the John Voelker Museum at Northern Michigan Uni-

versity in Marquette, MI.

A "Youth Fishing Day" was held June 24th in conjunction with the Peshigo Recreation Department, and a Marinette "Youth fishing Day" will be held July 22 in conjunction with the Marinette Park and Recreation Department. Marinette County T.U. provided prizes and awards for both events.

The chapter again has contracted a beaver trapper (Jerry Giese) to work area streams to remove problem beaver and dams. Through early May, Giese had removed 78 beaver. He will work throughout the summer months.

Chapter members planned to work with Green Bay T.U.'ers on habitat projects on the First South Branch Oconto River in Oconto County during June and July.

Elections held in April saw Lyle Lange and Dave Larson elected to three-year terms on the Board of Directors.

NORTHWOODS CHAPTER

Chapter elections were held at the May meeting. Bill Sherer of Boulder Junction was elected as chapter president, with past president Dave Newhouse stepping down after serving the chapter for two years.

Programs at spring meetings included a report by Darrell Richards, assistant ranger at the Laona District of the Nicolet National Forest, on the mineral exploration permit applica-

tion process on National Forests, and a talk by DNR conservation warden Larry Willems on fishing rules and regulations and stream access.

In late March, chapter members Don Hair and Dave Newhouse set up and staffed a T.U. display at the annual "Earth Fair" held at the Rhinelander middle school. A similar display will be held July 28, at the Northwoods Lake Fair in Eagle River.

OCONTO RIVER WATERSHED CHAPTER

The chapter's annual Conservation Banquet was held April 21st. A net profit of \$7,100 was made for the chapter's projects for the coming year.

Elections at the April meeting saw the following results: President - Dave Brunner; Vice President - Terry Brazeau; Secretary - Pam McMahan; Treasurer - Doug McMahan; Chair-

OJIBLEAU CHAPTER

Work efforts during spring included several days on Duncan Creek in Chippewa County, and an evening work effort/brat fry on Elk Creek in Dunn County.

The chapter also held its annual outing to Langlade County's Wolf River on May 20-22.

Ojibleau's annual spring banquet was its most successful to date as far as fund-raising was concerned, thanks in

SHAW-PACA CHAPTER

The chapter's annual Conservation Banquet was held April 7th at The Gathering in Shawano. A crowd of 330 folks helped the chapter raise over \$11,000 for conservation efforts for the coming year.

Special awards were made at the banquet to the widows of deceased members Louie Hoffman and Tom Newcomb, both of whom were long-term Shaw-Paca T.U. activists.

Chapter elections were held in May, with past-president Bill Weatherwax retiring from his post. New chapter officers are: President - Jerry Weatherwax; Vice president - Jim Dins; Secretary - Lee Kersten; Treasurer - Val Surber.

The chapter has made the following appropriations since the last issue of Wisconsin Trout: \$2,000 toward land acquisition on Upper Middle Inlet Creek in Marinette County (in conjunction with other T.U. chapters); \$1,000 to T.U. National's "Embrace-A-Stream" program; and \$250 to put on a fishing event for residents of the Birch Hill Healthcare Center in Shawano.

Youth activities have been a big part of Shaw-Paca's focus the last few months. In March, the chapter awarded its annual scholarship to Nick Schurz of Oshkosh; Nick is a junior at UW-Stevens Point and is studying aquatic ecology.



Residents of Birch Hill Healthcare Center of Shawano enjoyed "trout fishing" courtesy of Shaw-Paca T.U. in early May.

A fishing day for Shawano 4-H students was held June 4th at Monkey Island in the Wolf River in Shawano. On June 18th, the chapter's annual "Kids' Fishing Day" was held at Floyd Pluger's ponds south of Pella in Shawano County. More information on these events will be coming in the next issue of the paper.

Chapter members assisted with annual trout stocking in Mill Creek and the Red River in Shawano County, and

the chapter also removed a beaver dam from Mill Creek.

At the May meeting, chapter members heard from DNR fish manager Al Niebur about his 1993 study of the Little Wolf River Watershed. The chapter pledged support to Niebur to help fund more studies of the Little Wolf and to fund beaver trapping operations on Little Wolf tributaries which are being choked off by beaver activity.

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN CHAPTER

The chapter reports that members were treated to a talk at their April meeting by Tom Wendelburg, who

spoke on trout fly patterns, fishing techniques and places to fish within a day's drive of Milwaukee.

SOUTHERN WISCONSIN CHAPTER

Much of the chapter's energy in spring was directed toward involvement in a proposed development along Black Earth Creek in the Village of Cross Plains (Dane County). See the details of that issue in another article in this newspaper.

The chapter's meetings during spring included the chapter's annual auction with Colonel Muskrat and Doctor Sausage presiding over the bidding; an April program by Clay Reines on spring creek fishing; a May program by Rich Ostoff on Rocky Mountain lake and stream fishing; and a presentation in June by Tom Wendelburg on local spring creeks.

At the chapter's Annual Meeting in April, the chapter was pleased to award a scholarship to Marc Powell, a student at Mt. Horeb High School. Not only has Powell been an outstanding student, but he also has taken a leadership role in working with landowners along Dane County waters such as Deer Creek, Mt. Vernon Creek and others to develop a "Green Stripe" program. This program involves having landowners make small changes in land use practices on their property that not only

improve water quality through decreased runoff but also bring about economic benefits.

Powell will attend the UW-Madison in fall of 1994, enrolling in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences.

Attending the awards ceremony for Powell were DNR Secretary George Meyer, Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection Secretary Alan Tracy, Assemblyman Spencer Black of Madison and State Senator and gubernatorial candidate Charles Chvala of Madison.

Habitat improvement projects done in spring included maintenance and installation of crossing gates on Grinde's/Deer Creek near Mt. Horeb and a major fencing project on Meinholtz/Garfoot Creek southwest of Cross Plains.

A chapter held its annual "Special Needs Fishing Day" on June 11 at the pond of Jim Kalscheur. Results from that event will be announced in the next issue of Wisconsin Trout.

Wisconsin T.U.'s largest chapter continues to get even bigger, as more members are being recruited to its ranks.

WILD RIVERS CHAPTER

No report

WISCONSIN RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER

No report

WOLF RIVER CHAPTER

No report

Wisconsin trout stream



The Little Wolf River in Waupaca County.

Talk to any Midwestern trout angler, and they've all heard of the Wolf River. It's the big, burly river that has been the mecca for trout anglers in the Midwest for years.

But there's another "Wolf" River that doesn't get much ink. It's a quieter, more subdued stream than the big Wolf. So, naturally, it is called the Little Wolf River.

The Little Wolf River begins its journey in southeastern Marathon County, where it winds its way for about 10 stream miles before dipping into Portage County for a little over a mile. Then it enters Waupaca County, where it's trout water for about 13 miles until it gets to the little burg of Big Falls, where it gradually changes into water more suitable for small-mouth bass.

The river has had a following of its own over the years, and it has piqued the interest of Department of Natural Resources fishery managers. That's because it has continued to sustain a brook trout fishery while many of the trout waters nearby have been converted to brown trout fisheries.

According to the DNR, the Little Wolf and its tributaries make up a large part of the brook trout fishery in Waupaca County. For the most part, the stream is listed as a Class I brook trout water. The DNR has several easements and fee title land ownerships along the river. One of the first stream habitat improvement projects funded via Sport Fish Restoration funds occurred in 1978 on Spaulding Creek, a Little Wolf River tributary.

After the 1988-1989 drought, the DNR was very concerned about the status of the Little Wolf and its tributaries. Since the Little Wolf was open to trout fishing in 1990 and 1991 when nearby Northeastern Wisconsin trout waters were ordered closed to allow trout populations to recover from the impacts of the prolonged dry spell, fishery experts worried that the Little Wolf's fishery may have been severely hurt from angler exploitation as well as drought impacts.

As a result, DNR stream surveys were ordered for the Little Wolf to address this issue and identify other management needs of the system.

Several survey stations were chosen in the mainstem of the Little Wolf and its tributaries such as Comet Creek, Spaulding Creek, Jackson Creek, Blake Brook and Whitcomb Creek. General habitat characteristics were measured, and fish populations were sampled by means of electroshocking.

While the trout surveys showed mixed results depending upon the stream and sample area, the overall results indicated that brook trout populations in the system were in good shape. Several year classes were evident, and it

appeared that natural reproduction was doing well.

And relatively cool and wet summers in 1992 and 1993 have helped provide for better spawning conditions and survival of young-of-the-year fish.

Comparing this most recent survey with those done in the late 1970s on the Little Wolf shows that adult brook trout numbers are down somewhat, but higher streamflows and cooler temperatures at survey times in 1993 may have caused more dispersal. Future sampling of the Little Wolf and its tributaries will become more routine in future years and allow the DNR to better track trends in trout populations.

Access to the Little Wolf River is fairly good. Nearly a dozen bridge crossings in Marathon and Portage counties are available, with another six or so crossings in Waupaca County. State-owned areas exist in Portage and Waupaca counties for anglers to get onto the river without worrying about private property trespass.

The Little Wolf has a relatively gentle flow, and the bottom is quite easy to wade in most spots. It gets the usual variety of fly hatches found in central Wisconsin sand country trout waters, including the gamut of mayfly and caddis fly hatches.

Under the new inland trout fishing regulations, the Little Wolf has a mix of classifications that can be somewhat confusing to the angler.

In Marathon County, it is listed as a Category 4 water (three trout per day, eight inch and 12-inch size limits on brook and brown trout, respectively) from the Marathon-Portage County line upstream to river Drive, above which it is classified as Category 1 (10 trout per day, no size limit).

Where it briefly flows through Portage County, it is listed as Category 2 water (five trout per day, seven-inch size limit) in the trout regulations pamphlet, but is color-coded as a Category 4 water on the maps.

Once it gets into Waupaca County, the Little Wolf is again a Category 4 water up to the point where its classification as trout water comes to an end.

There are no Category 5 ("Special Regulation") sections on the Little Wolf at the moment, but DNR fish manager Al Niebur is looking at the river with the idea of establishing a Category 5 stretch in the near future.

Such a plan may be beneficial to the Little Wolf and hasten the return of days when catching a 15 inch or better brook trout from its waters was not uncommon.

Trout anglers seeking a nice, quiet trout stream with both placid sections and some lively rapids would do well to check out the Little Wolf River. It will provide a peaceful and relaxing day of fishing, especially once the crowds of

opening week anglers depart for other pursuits.

And with a little extra tender loving care from the DNR and T.U. in the near future, the Little Wolf will be a superb trout fishery for the next generation of trout anglers.

impacts that the Category 5 "special regulations" have had on area waters, Al turned enthusiastic.

"We've seen a dramatic increase in size structure and abundance in some sections of the Mecan River due to the new trout regulations," he said. "Unfortunately, we weren't able to collect any recent 'pre-regulation' data for other area streams. We've begun, though, surveying several streams and will use index stations on these streams which will be sampled on a three-year rotation in order to track long-term trends in their respective trout populations."

"I see a real need for expanding special regulations in this area," he stated firmly. "Several streams like the White River, Waupaca River and lower Willow Creek have real potential for producing trophy brown trout. However, current regulations don't allow these streams to reach their full potential."

"In the future," Al added, "I'd like to see different streams with a combination of 'catch-and-release' regulations as well as 'trophy regulations' that allow an angler to take home one 'fish-of-a-lifetime.'"

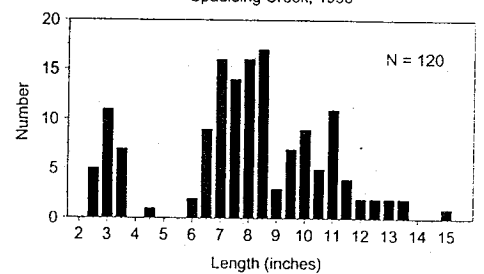
Besides his responsibilities with the coldwater resources of his two-county area, Niebur also has 280 named lakes in Waupaca and Waushara counties to manage, including the well-known Waupaca Chain-of-Lakes, which has one of the highest use-per-surface-acre rates of any water body in central Wisconsin.

"The Waupaca Chain possesses a unique fishery," Al stated. "over the years, wild brown trout have established themselves successfully in these lakes, and a significant population of wild adult browns resides in the lakes and spawns in Emmons Creek, a major feeder of the Chain. Very few, if any, fisheries of this kind exist in the state, and future work will be focused on this unique and valuable resource."

Warmwater species management on which Al is currently focusing has to do with management of northern pike and control of aquatic vegetation.

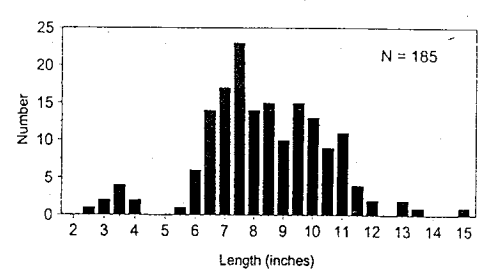
"We've asked for support from the Conservation Congress and other groups to create a 26-inch minimum size limit and a two-per-day bag limit

Length Distribution of all Brook Trout
Spaulding Creek, 1993



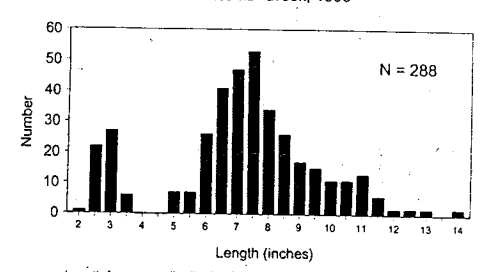
Length frequency distribution for all brook trout captured by electrofishing in Spaulding Creek, 1993.

Length Distribution of all Brook Trout
Little Wolf River, 1993



Length frequency distribution for all brook trout captured by electrofishing in the Little Wolf River, 1993.

Length Distribution of all Brook Trout
Whitcomb Creek, 1993



Length frequency distribution for all brook trout captured by electrofishing in Whitcomb Creek, 1993.

on northern pike in Waushara County," he said. "Fishery assessments in county lakes indicate that the number of bigger pike has decreased dramatically over the years. While some of this is due to wetland and spawning habitat loss, a lot of it is also caused by over-exploitation by anglers."

"For the moment, Waupaca County will be left out of this proposal," Al continued, "because most of that county's lakes have abundant pike populations that are slow-growing. We do have a few lakes, such as Bear Lake in the Waupaca Chain, where more restrictive length and daily bag limits could help increase pike abundance and size structure, and these lakes may be considered for special management after we collect data that will allow us to make a biologically valid decision."

The study of aquatic vegetation is one that Niebur sees as being very beneficial long-term to the warmwater fisheries of his area.

"We've got a cooperative research

More trout classification for White River (Waushara County)

Additional information on the White River Flowage in Waushara County and the lower White River down to the Marquette County line has resulted in a decision by Department of Natural Resources fish manager Al Niebur of Wautoma to classify those two water bodies as trout water.

Niebur and his crew set fyke nets in the White River Flowage after ice-out this spring and captured approximately 90-100 adult brown trout. In 1993, the DNR fishery crew electroshocked the White River below the flowage and found a small population of browns with several age classes present.

"The trout in the flowage probably overwinter there and then move

upstream into the White River and its tributaries after ice-out to seek cooler water temperatures," Niebur said. "After the fall spawning runs, then drop down into the flowage and stay through winter."

By seeking classification of those two waters as trout water, the DNR will also be able to curtail commercial harvesting of mayfly nymphs, which has been done extensively in that portion of the White not listed as trout water. The Central Wisconsin T.U. chapter had voiced concern for several years that heavy harvest of the mayfly nymphs in the lower White was hurting the overall population of that aquatic organism in the White River system.

profile - Little Wolf River

project now going between the DNR and UW-Madison to assess the effect of aquatic vegetation on management of fish populations in the littoral zone of Wisconsin lakes. Three lakes in the Waupaca/Waushara County area have been chosen for the study," he noted.

"Beginning in summer of 1994, we'll be harvesting **Eurasian milfoil** (an exotic plant that proliferates rapidly and impacts fish communities) at different rates to determine how fish populations respond to changing weed densities," Al said. "Channels will be cut through weed beds, thus creating more edge habitat for increased predator-prey interactions."

"Hopefully," he added, "the increase in edge habitat will allow largemouth bass to more effectively prey on bluegills, and we'll get better growth on both species."

Life is not all work for Niebur. A member of the Central Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited, he enjoys fly fishing for trout, chasing muskies during summer and fall, and playing basketball anytime. He also has a special affinity for scuba diving, particularly in tropical waters. In 1993, he assisted with marine research and did

scuba diving in Palua and Guam.

Other spots he's been scuba diving include Australia, Fiji, New Zealand and the Caribbean.

Al Niebur has brought some much-needed enthusiasm to the fisheries job in Wautoma, and his efforts have been noticed. He received the Wisconsin T.U. 1992 "Fish Manager of the Year" award for his herculean efforts to restore Waushara County trout streams after the August, 1992, tornados swept through the area. And he has worked closely with the T.U. chapters in his area (Central WI, Fox Valley and Shaw-Paca) to make a positive impact on the coldwater fishery of that region.

He gives much credit to his fisheries technician, **Mark Austin**, and his crew of **LTEs** (Limited Term Employees) for the work that has been accomplished to date.

"These people give 110 percent, no matter what the conditions or the situation," Al noted.

And the T.U. effort in his area has impressed Niebur very much.

"I'd like to thank all the local T.U. chapters for their support and funding of various projects in my area," he mentioned. "Ever since I took this pos-

ition, they have made every effort to make my program a success, and I look forward to working with them in the years to come."

Suffice it to say that those T.U. chap-

ters that have worked with Al since he came to Wautoma in 1992 are equally enthusiastic about the prospect of working with an ambitious, energetic fish manager of Niebur's quality.



DNR fishery crew member measures and weighs brook trout from 1993 survey on the Little Wolf.

DNR Fish Manager profile: Al Niebur

It is said that, in any organization, "fresh blood" is needed to keep things going. We know that is true in Trout Unlimited chapters and other conservation/sportsmen's groups.

But the same holds true for businesses and government agencies. An infusion of "fresh blood" into fisheries management in Wisconsin is required from time-to-time to bring enthusiasm into that facet of natural resource protection.

And Al Niebur, a 2-year old fisheries biologist with the DNR, has been a breath of new life to fisheries - and coldwater resources - management in our state.

Niebur was born and raised in Racine, where he graduated from J.I. Case High School. He attended the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, where he earned a Bachelors Degree in Fisheries Management and Biology, and he is currently working on a Masters Degree.

Subsequent to graduating from "Point", Al worked for two years with the U.S. Forest Service as a temporary fishery biologist in the **Umpqua National Forest** (Oregon), where he monitored the impacts of timber harvest on the North Umpqua steelhead fishery. He also performed annual assessments of steelhead and salmon smolt escapement, habitat assessments and stream classification.

For the past two-and-a-half years, Niebur has worked as a fishery biologist with the Wisconsin DNR in Wautoma, where his primary responsibilities are managing the fishery resources for **Waupaca** and **Waushara** counties. His duties also include developing and implementing a long-term "sub-area" fisheries management plan, overseeing 18,000 (+) acres of state fishery lands and working with lake associations and conservation groups.

The coldwater resources of Niebur's two-county area of responsibility are of prime importance to Al.

"Recently, several new projects have been initiated to address coldwater management issues in the area," he said. "One such study is on the **Waupaca River**. For years, the river has been stocked in autumn with about 18,000 fingerling trout. But this practice has been questioned due to new management initiatives regarding

maintenance of wild fish stocks over hatchery stocks."

"In 1992," Al continued, "wild trout from **Radley Creek** were captured and transported to the **Wild Rose Fishery Hatchery**, where eggs and milt were taken from the fish to raise 'wild trout' in the hatchery. Then in 1993 we stocked the **Waupaca River** with 6,000 hatchery stock trout, 6,000 wild-strain stock and 6,000 hatchery stock that were reared as wild fish."

"This year, DNR research and management teams will do electrofishing surveys on the **Waupaca** to evaluate overwinter and oversummer survival, and a creel census will be conducted later to evaluate how these fish contribute to the anglers' bag. Hopefully, we can answer some pressing questions regarding trout stocking practices and where we should go in the future," Al said.

Land acquisition has been a key element in the coldwater protection program in **Waupaca** and **Waushara** counties, Niebur noted. He credits the former fish manager **Mike Primising**, past land specialist **Bob Heding** and current land specialist **Elward Engle** for the purchasing of over 18,000 acres of land that protect streambanks, associated wetlands and springheads.

Yet there are still problems in the lands area that Al addressed.

"**Waupaca** and **Waushara** counties are being developed at a tremendous rate," he noted. "Our close proximity to the **Fox Valley** area, **Oshkosh** and **Stevens Point** has made commuting very appealing. People can have a nice home on a stream and still work in the city. Where we once had large contiguous blocks of ownership near the streams, we now have many areas split up into subdivisions with small lots."

"Unfortunately," Al added, "with this increased development and usage comes a price, that being increased runoff and sedimentation, which can severely compromise water quality and fish habitat. Hopefully, we can curb some of these problems with acquisition of stream corridors via fee title or easements."

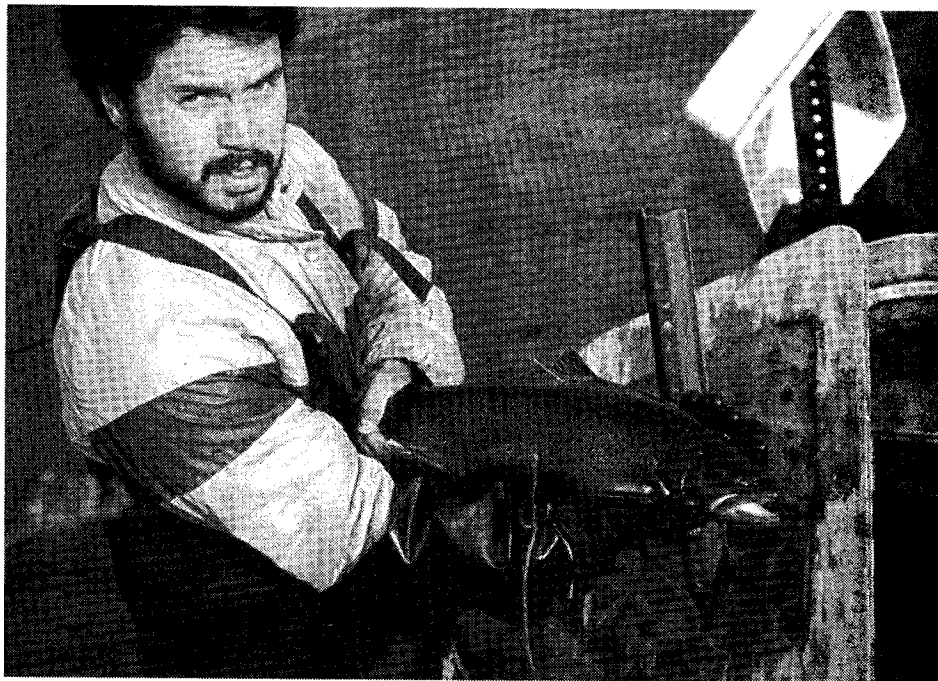
Niebur also stated that **ditching** and **pond building** continue to be threats to the resource, and that protection of existing springs and wetlands must be done at all costs.

Trout habitat improvement work in Wisconsin got its baptism in the counties of **Waupaca** and **Waushara**, and Al stated that such work is still important today.

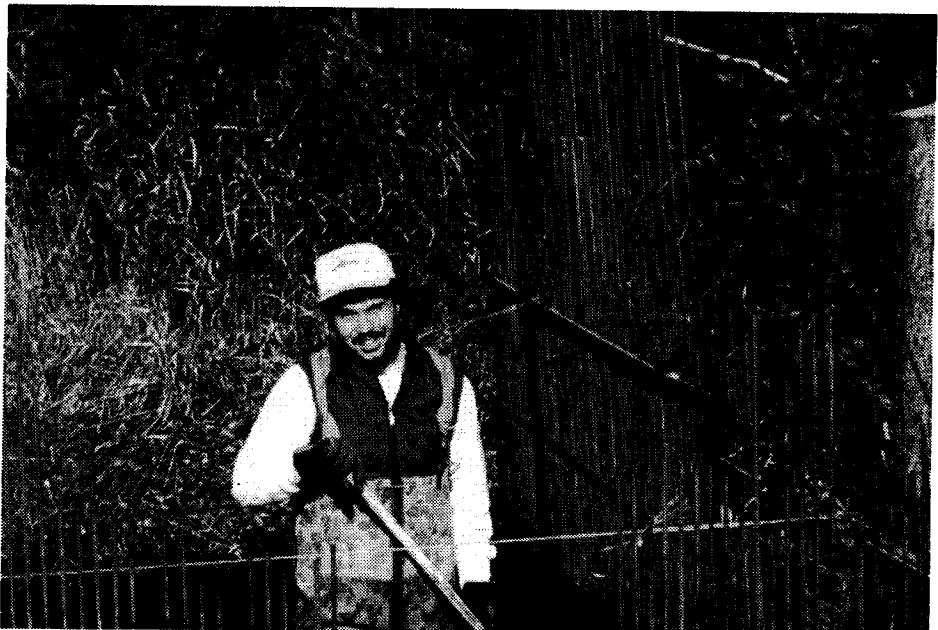
"We have a very active habitat enhancement program in the area," he said. "Each year we're able to complete projects on local streams. We've spent the past couple of seasons repairing some damaged parts of the **West**

Branch of the **White River** that were hurt by the 1992 tornados. This year, we're starting a project on the **Waupaca River** where we'll use several habitat enhancement techniques to increase numbers of large trout. Hopefully, we'll also be able to enact stricter harvest regulations to complement this project."

When asked specifically about the



Al Niebur displaying brown trout shocked from Emmons Creek.



Al Niebur

DNR petitioned to control manure runoff

The Wisconsin Environmental Decade held a press conference March 28th in Madison to announce that a petition was being submitted to the Department of Natural Resources that requests the agency to take action to control manure runoff from Wisconsin's 65,000 animal feedlots that are virtually unregulated.

The Decade was joined in the petition by the Wisconsin Public Intervenor, The River Alliance of Wisconsin and other concerned citizens, including a farmer, anglers, recreational boaters and conservationists.

Animal feedlots contribute to a variety of water quality and health problems in the state due to the unregulated nature of their activities, according to the Decade's executive summary. These include:

*Wisconsin's 65,000 unregulated livestock operations are analogous to 65,000 unanswered communities. These "communities" may include up to 1,000 cattle, producing as much waste as a city of 7,000 people.

*The state's livestock industry discharges 20 times more phosphorous pollution into Wisconsin waterways than all municipal and industrial sources combined. Excess phosphorous

causes premature aging of water bodies (eutrophication), algae blooms and noxious weed growth.

*Research indicates that the majority of cryptosporidium oocysts found in ground and surface water derive from agricultural sources. There are 150 diseases which humans can contract from microorganisms in animal waste, including cholera, tuberculosis, typhoid fever, salmonella and cryptosporidiosis.

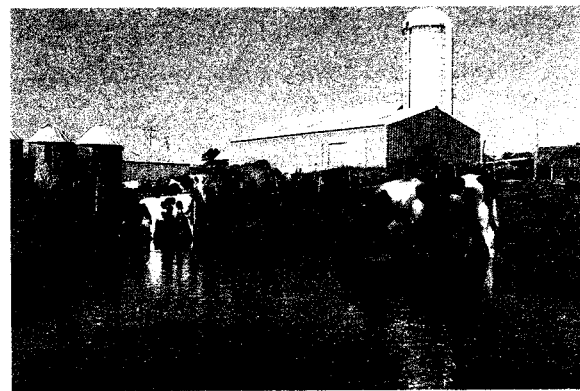
*Animal waste has resulted in many fish kills across the state and has damaged state trout and smallmouth bass fisheries, due to high levels of ammonia and organic pollutants. Pollutants from livestock also kill migratory birds, aquatic birds and shellfish.

The Decade contends that the Legislature and the DNR have failed to deal effectively with the animal waste problem, because:

*Protective rules make passage of state legislation related to livestock operations very difficult.

*The DNR's inadequate animal waste regulations, enacted in 1983, apply to only 40 of the more than 65,000 livestock operations in the state.

*Two-thirds of citizen complaints



Pastoral scenes like this often have devastating impacts on the health of a stream.

about animal waste pollution are not investigated by the DNR, and complaint backlogs continue to grow.

*Only five staff are assigned statewide to deal with what the DNR itself calls a "massive water pollution problem".

*The DNR has not carried out its legislative mandate, nor used its substantial authority granted by state legislation, to develop a comprehensive action program directed at animal waste.

The petition presented to the DNR requests the agency to make five major changes in state regulation of animal waste.

*Require livestock operations with more than 300 animal units to have stormwater runoff control and nutrient management plans reviewed by the DNR before receiving a permit to discharge.

*Require all livestock operations of more than 28 animal units to follow basic stormwater control and nutrient management practices.

*Require all livestock operations of more than 28 animal units which use animal waste storage facilities to meet

standards to protect against leaching into groundwater.

*Increase state staffing to administer the program and to respond to citizen complaints.

*Enforce these regulations rigorously in priority watersheds and other areas where animal waste is known to be degrading water quality.

The Natural Resources Board approved a DNR staff recommendation to convene an Ad Hoc Advisory Committee to develop a comprehensive and effective proposal to resolve animal-waste related water quality problems in the state. The committee will include representatives of agriculture, environmental groups and government agencies.

The Ad Hoc Committee is to develop its proposal by considering water quality impacts, economic impacts and integration of existing and emerging state and federal nonpoint source water pollution control programs and local zoning initiatives.

The committee's final proposal is to be completed by December 31, 1994, with interim progress reports due September 1 and November 1 of 1994.

Protection delayed for East Branch Eau Claire River

The plan to have the East Branch of the Eau Claire River in Langlade County entered into the Stream Bank Protection Program has been delayed due to landowner objections to the plan, objections that have been fueled by the spreading of false information.

In September of 1993, Antigo DNR fish manager Max Johnson sent a letter to all landowners who are adjacent to the East Branch to inform them of his plan to seek inclusion of the East Branch in the list of waters to be approved for the Stream Bank Protection Program (see related article).

Johnson received mostly positive comments from those responding to his letter. However, prior to the Natural Resources Board taking action on the entire package of stream nominees for the program, a backlash from local landowners occurred. That backlash was fueled by misunderstanding and malicious falsehoods regarding the state's intent to use "eminent domain", or condemnation, to obtain stream corridor frontage.

An April 14, 1994, public information session set up by the DNR to attempt to allay landowners' fears about the project only provided a forum for those opposing the project to continue to profess unsubstantiated claims and lies about the intent of the East Branch project.

Subsequent to the April 14th meeting, Natural Resources Board chairman Herb Behnke of Shawano and North Central District DNR fisheries supervi-


sor Lloyd "Duke" Andrews met with some of the landowners to get a better understanding of the concerns of the property owners along the East Branch.

From that meeting came a pledge from the DNR to delay attempts to include the East Branch in the Stream Bank Protection Program until fall of this year so that staff can take time to talk to landowners and dispel some of the many falsehoods spread by the group opposed to the East Branch project.


The East Branch Eau Claire River was selected for the Stream Bank Protection Program, because it not only has problems with land use practices along its banks, but it also is a prime trout stream that seems to hold a unique strain of brook trout that can withstand higher water thermal regimes than other brook trout strains.

Johnson has noted that moderate to heavy rains will result in the East Branch running very murky, because farm fields are cropped so closely to the river's bank that soil runoff easily gets into the river. The Stream Bank Protection Program would give the DNR the opportunity to purchase stream corridors from willing sellers so that vegetative cover could be established to prevent erosion from entering the stream.

Natural Resources Board chairman Behnke has said that he expects the East Branch to be approved for the Stream Bank Protection Program later this year.



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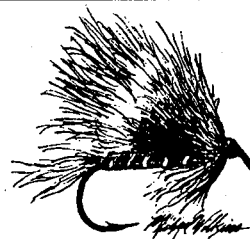
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Black Earth Creek spared potential damage

Industrial park plans changed

Action by several environmental/conservation groups has helped spare - for the moment - Dane County's Black Earth Creek from potential environmental damage.

Earlier this year, plans were announced for the proposed Glacial Valley Commerce Park in the Village of Cross Plains. The 60-acre industrial park's eastern border was to abut Black

Earth Creek (BEC) south of Highway 14 (see map).

The first tenant of the park was to be a new firm, Sunny Graphics, that was planning to build its 110,000 square-foot plant in close proximity to BEC's banks.

In conjunction with the Wisconsin Environmental Decade and the Sierra Club, the Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited voiced concerns over the proposed industrial park and the location of the Sunny Graphics plant.

Southern Wisconsin Trout Unlimited (SWTU) enunciated its position and concerns on the proposed industrial park in late February of this year. Citing BEC as a "multi-million dollar stream" and one that has been identified as one of the best 100 trout streams in the nation, SWTU laid out its points of contention over the industrial park thusly:

1. Proposed development should not impair hydrologic conditions, water quality of BEC or the critical riparian buffer zone;

2. Erosion control and stormwater runoff must be adequately addressed by any plans;

3. Any permitted development should be designed with, not against, nature;

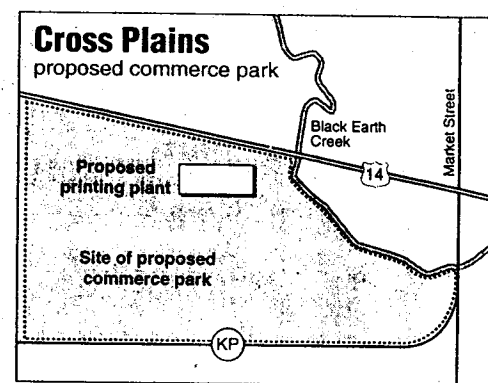
4. Subsequent growth induced by the industrial park should not adversely impact the stream ecosystem;

5. Transportation infrastructure supporting the industrial park, and elsewhere along the stream corridor, should not affect adversely the character and the quality of BEC; and

6. The larger question of urban sprawl must be addressed.

The Village of Cross Plains Board gave approval to the industrial park in early April of this year, and a month later SWTU retained the legal services of Peter A. Peshek, a former Public Intervenor and member of the Madison Law Firm of DeWitt Porter, to represent the organization's interests in protecting BEC.

On May 20th, however, the back-and-forth contentions of the proposed industrial park and Sunny Graphics plant in the Village of Cross Plains'



new industrial park came to a halt when the firm said it was no longer interested in locating in the Cross Plains industrial park.

That decision came about, because the state's Department of Development decided to withhold \$1 million in grant money for the park until all environmental issues surrounding the park were resolved. Because of time delays associated with obtaining permits from the Department of Natural Resources, Sunny Graphics found a less environmentally-sensitive site in the vacant industrial park of Mazomanie, also in northwest Dane County.

For the moment, BEC has been spared a potentially serious degradation problem. Action by SWTU and the other environmental groups has heightened the recognition that these groups have for putting time and effort into protecting fragile and important resources and ecosystems.

And, because of SWTU's demands for maximum environmental protection in design, financing and maintenance (had the project proceeded at Cross Plains), there now exists an "operation and maintenance manual" (via Sunny Graphics' engineering consultants) that can be used when and if similar situations arise that would have impacts on other coldwater and warmwater resources.

In the end, the key point of this entire debate was specific recognition of the land and cumulative-effects issues associated with the proposed development. Failing to deal with these complex issues could have led to the loss of BEC (and other fragile resources) in a piecemeal fashion.

Wisconsin 30 years from now

By DNR Secretary
George E. Meyer



Perhaps nothing affects our quality of life more than the land where we live. Land helped shape the American character and few things are closer to our hearts than land.

Whether it's the quarter-acre suburban lot where we grew up, the family farm still cultivated by our relatives, the condo development we've invested our savings in, the breathtaking vistas over prairie and farmland, the forest where we go to find solace from daily stress or the bluegill pond we take our grandchildren to and tell them fish stories from our youth, we all care deeply about our land.

As we ponder our state's landscape, though, disturbing questions come to mind. How do we want Wisconsin to look in 20 or 30 years? Can we control how it will look or will change happen piecemeal?

What is the DNR's role?

We at the Department of Natural Resources see good land use decisions as those which enable the department to carry out its mission of promoting clean air, land, and water; of preserving or protecting fish, wildlife, and forests; and of supporting outdoor recreation. Good land use decisions are essential for our state's economic viability and our quality of life.

As an agency, we are currently trying to further define land use issues and problems through discussions among our own staff and with people outside the agency.

Within the department, we've been taking a comprehensive look at all of our programs to see which of them impact land use and particularly which programs may be barriers to good land use decisions.

As part of this effort, a group of staff, at my direction, will be looking for possible new directions for the Department of Natural Resources to address land use problems.

This past fall, my staff and I have met with many groups throughout the state to start hearing their ideas and concerns relating to the changing Wisconsin

landscape and land use choices within the state.

So far we've met with members of the agricultural community, developers, environmentalists, local governments, manufacturing industry representatives, conservation organizations and the Southeast Regional Planning Commission.

Clearly, land use is an issue with many partners and players. Nearly everyone is concerned and perhaps even fearful about what our landscape will look like in a few decades. People are concerned about what they will or will not be able to do on the land.

Only through continuous dialogue will we, as a state, be able to define what we want for our homeland. Only by working hard together will we be able to realize that vision.

I feel land use issues are the key issues facing my agency at this time. Land use decisions being made now impact our quality of life and the quality of the environment that will be left for our grandchildren.

That is why I raise land use issues with every group I talk to. It is why I pledge that my agency will continue to work with all of you as we further define our role in the land use picture.

Land Use Concerns

As DNR staff have met with various groups over the past several months, they've listened to the concerns and fears surrounding the land use issue. Listed here is a sampling of what they have heard.

*Development is chewing up prime farmland in a piecemeal manner. If farming is not profitable, the problem will worsen.

*Developers supply what people demand and if local government controls are too tight, they are forced to create "hopscotch" development.

*Transportation and sewer policies need to be tied to environmental concerns to prevent degradation of the environmental resources of the state and prevent loss of wetland, habitats, ecosystems and environmental corridors.

*Sewering policies and a proliferation of mound systems can lead to urban sprawl. Annexation is tied to sewerage policies.

*Sprawl leads to increased service costs such as police and fire protection.

*Different problems exist in the southeast part of the state and in Dane County than in the rest of the state.

*Mismatched development can cause problems such as when new residential development is built adjacent to older manufacturing areas.

*We need an ecosystem approach to land use. We must protect land corridors and patterns of ecosystems. We must use natural resources inventories when planning and provide incentives for good land use.

*We must keep farmers farming.

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Fishery area proposed for Manitowoc-Branch River system

The Department of Natural Resources has developed a feasibility study for a proposed Fishery Area on the Manitowoc-Branch River system in Manitowoc County. The property is adjacent to the City of Manitowoc.

The Manitowoc River and the tributary Branch River comprise one of Wisconsin's 11 premier streams for anadromous trout and salmon runs from Lake Michigan. Stream fishing for anadromous fish occurs from late summer through to the following spring.

Because of a large increase in

angling pressure on anadromous species in Lake Michigan tributaries, the DNR carried out an analysis of the most important streams for anadromous fish to determine if access needs to be improved on those streams.

Prior to 1983, a dam on the Manitowoc River prevented the upstream migration of fish. Up until that time, there was adequate public access for fishing downstream from the dam, either at city parks or from DNR-owned access sites.

Once the dam was breached, however, a total of 41 (+) miles of stream

became accessible to anadromous runs of fish. Numerous riffles, falls and deeper holes in these rivers provide habitat for anadromous fish, but poor access to those sites limits angling opportunities.

Since there are so many sites that provide fish habitat and good fishing spots on these rivers, acquiring only a few access sites along the Manitowoc and Branch rivers would not meet fishing demand, which is very high due to the area's close proximity to Manitowoc (population 30,000+) and being nearby to Green Bay (20 miles), the Fox Cities (25 miles) and Milwaukee (60 miles).

The feasibility study proposes to acquire up to 5,088 acres along the Manitowoc and Branch rivers, with about 2,000 acres along the Branch and the rest along the Manitowoc. Streambank acquisition will also allow the DNR to manage lands in such a manner as to reduce erosion and surface runoff problems.

Non-point pollution within the watershed is the major source of pollution and siltation in the rivers. The DNR is also evaluating the need to improve water quality upstream from the proposed fishery area. If analysis demonstrates that there is need for further acquisition upstream from the proposed fishery area, then a feasibility study for a Streambank Protection Program project will be prepared.

Acquisition costs (in 1994 dollars) for the proposed project are estimated to be \$2,700,000 for land and \$200,000 in improvements. The DNR will seek to

Figure 1. Premier Anadromous Trout and Salmon Streams Along Lake Michigan

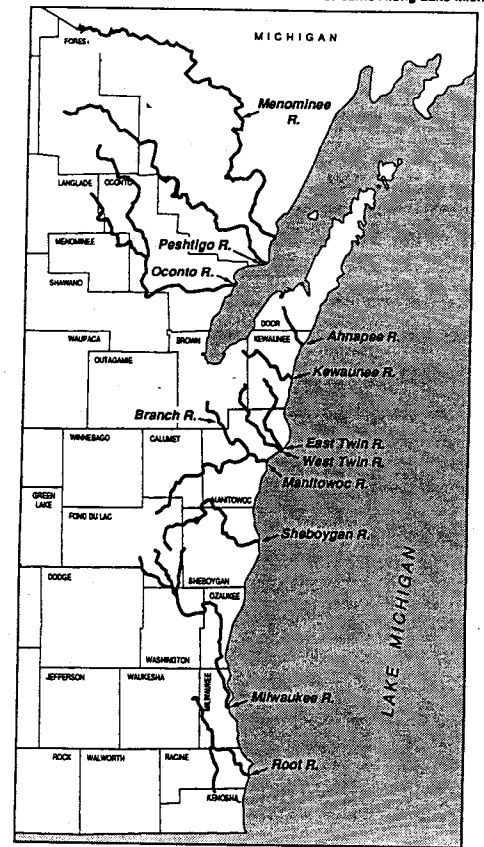
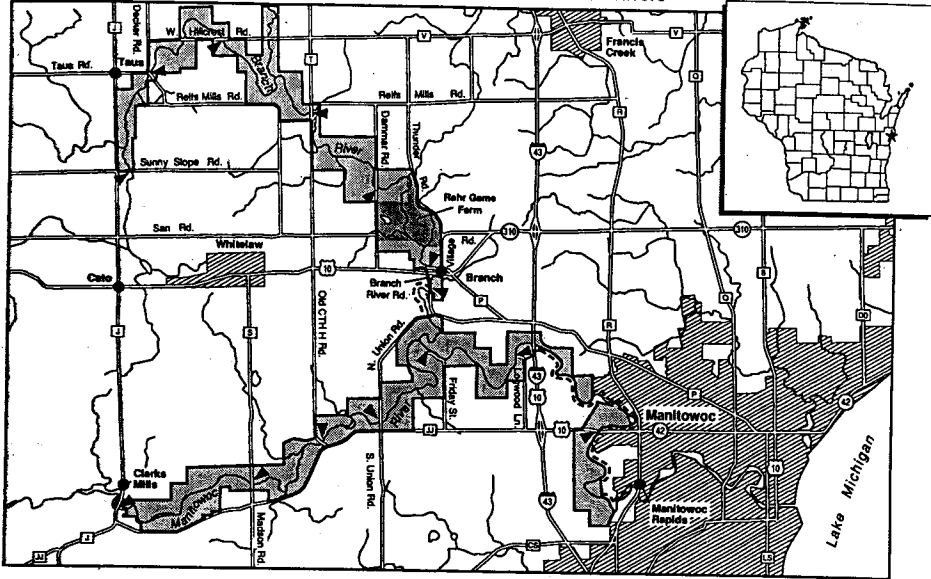


Figure 3. Potential Public Access Locations on Manitowoc and Branch Rivers



— Proposed Fee Acquisition Boundary
 - - - Proposed Easement Acquisition Boundary
 ▼ Potential Access Sites



purchase properties that are greater than one-and-one-half acres and that are not within subdivisions.

In addition, the DNR projects another \$100,000 of costs for such items as streamside vegetation and erosion control, building demolition, fencing, well abandonment, site clean up and property signs.

Contact has been made by the DNR with town, county and state government officials, Conservation Congress delegates and several key interest groups. All landowners within the proposed fishery area boundaries were contacted by letter. To date, all response from landowners and government officials have been positive and supportive.

The DNR will conduct an official public notice of the project prior to asking for project approval from the Natural Resources Board.

(Ed. note: a public hearing on this proposal was held June 7th in Manitowoc.)

Grants available for environmental projects

Wisconsin nonprofit organizations, individuals, and local government agencies are eligible for matching grants of up to \$1,000 for environmental projects from the Small Matching Grants Program, sponsored by the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin.

The grants are intended for environmental education, management, restoration or research projects which provide a public benefit. Private property improvement projects are not eligible.

Grant monies must be matched on a one-to-one basis in cash or in-kind goods or services.

The application deadline is Sept. 1. To receive application materials, contact Barb Barzen, Natural Resources Foundation, P.O. Box 129, Madison, WI 53701 or call (608) 266-1430.

The Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping preserve, protect and enhance Wisconsin's natural resources heritage by providing financial assistance for conservation projects.

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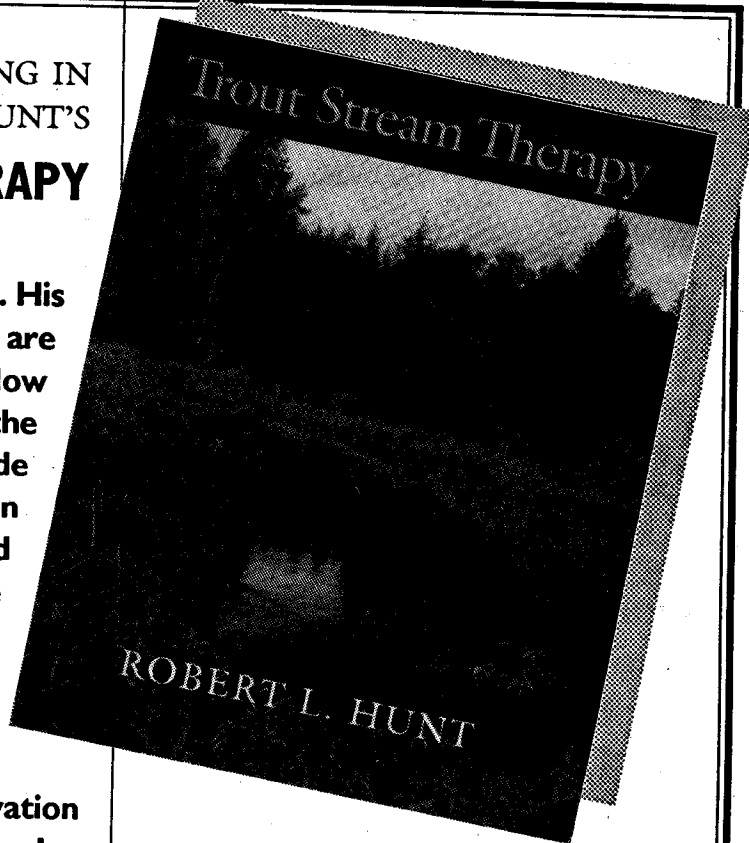
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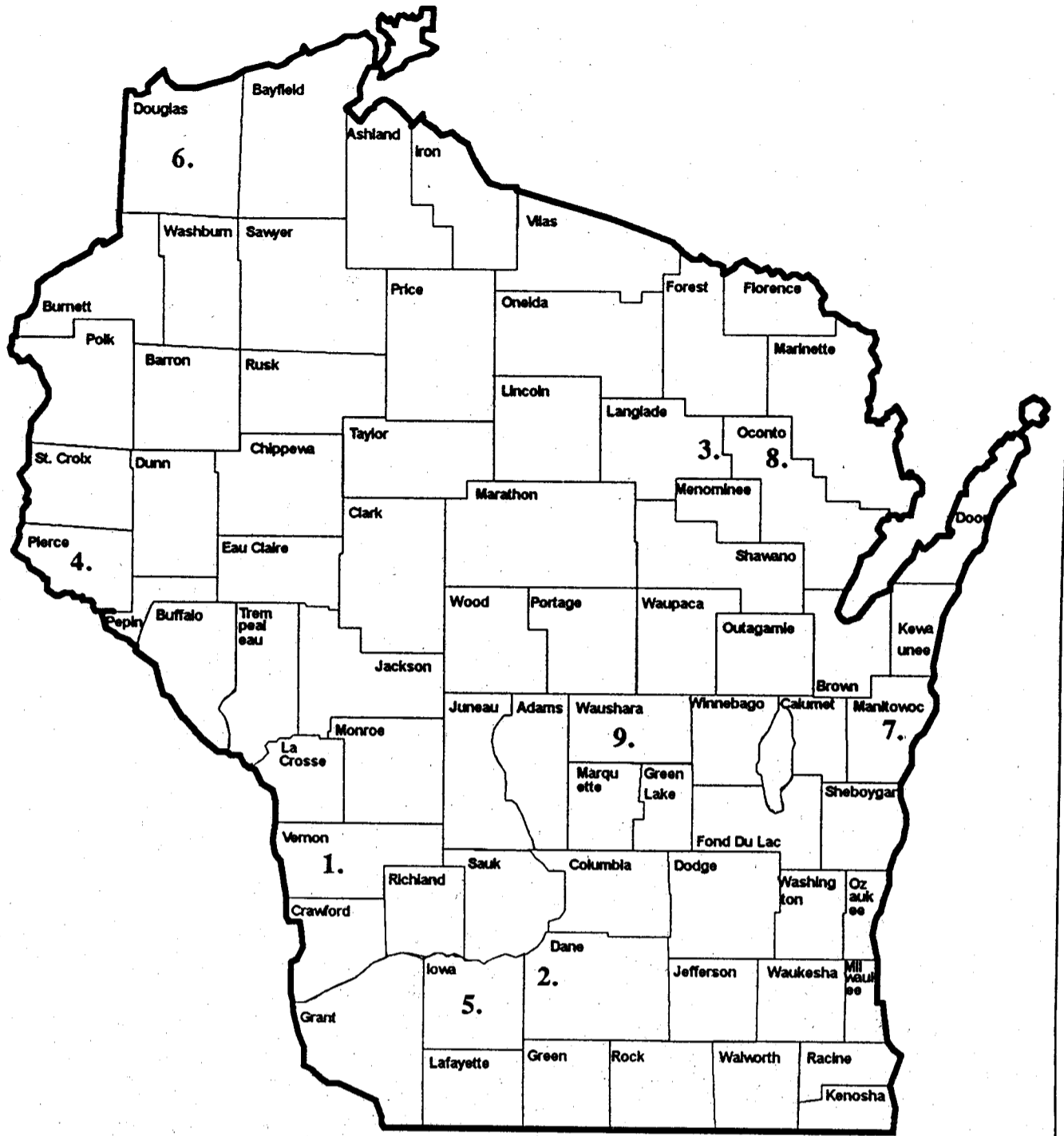
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1. \$4,000 - for rip-rapping and structural improvements on the West Fork Kickapoo River (Vernon Co.)
2. \$1,500 - for placement of LUNKER structures and bank stabilization in Black Earth Creek (Dane Co.)
3. \$1,000 - for hydraulic dredging of Saul Spring Pond (Langlade Co.)
4. \$750 - for purchase of special thermometers to monitor stormwater runoff into the Kinnickinnic River (Pierce Co.)
5. \$2,000 - for re-routing and stabilizing Brewery Creek (Iowa Co.)
6. \$75 - for purchase of "catch-and-release" signs for the Bois Brule River (Douglas Co.)
7. \$2,500 - for renovation of trout rearing facilities in Lincoln Park (City of Manitowoc)
8. \$500 - for bank stabilization and structural improvement on the North Fork Thunder River (Oconto Co.)
9. \$1,000 - for land acquisition along the White River (Waushara Co.)
10. \$1,000 - to assist with acquisition of 64(+) acres of land along Upper Middle Inlet Creek (Marinette County)



"Friends" program hits new record!

Wisconsin Trout Unlimited's very successful "Friends of Wisconsin T.U." program has hit a new record for success! To date for this fiscal year, the program has netted nearly \$8,000 for the Council's conservation efforts. And nearly \$5,500 of that amount has come from this year's annual "Friends" campaign conducted by Council fund-raising chairman John Cantwell.

With that new influx of funds, the Council has approved another expenditure of "Friends" funds; this time in the amount of \$1,000 to assist with an important land purchase on Upper Middle Inlet Creek in northern Marinette County. The creek is a Class I brook trout stream and is listed as an "Outstanding Resource Water" by the Department of Natural Resources.

While the Council has set a new fund-raising record via "friends", the fiscal year is not over until September 30th. The Council would welcome renewals by "Friends" who are past due, or new "Friends" who believe in the programs being supported by "Friends of Wisconsin T.U."

For annual donations of \$100 or more, "Friends" will receive a Wisconsin T.U. "Friends" lapel pin and Certificate of Appreciation suitable for framing. And their names will be listed in four consecutive issues of Wisconsin Trout, the official publication of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited.

Moreover, they will receive the satisfaction of knowing that their donation will go directly to support habitat improvement, streambank protection and coldwater research throughout

Wisconsin. Help Wisconsin T.U. continue its success story. Enroll in the "Friends of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited" program TODAY! Use the form with this article to mail in your tax deductible contribution. For more information on the "Friends" program, call John Cantwell at (414) 435-1919 (O), or (414) 434-3989 (H).

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T.U. annual meeting Sept. 21-25

"MOUNTAINS & WILD TROUT" IS THEME OF 1994 NATIONAL TU CONVENTION

The 1994 Trout Unlimited National Convention and Annual Meeting is scheduled for September 21-25 in Bozeman, Montana.

For years fly-fishing enthusiasts from around the world have traveled to Montana for the pure pleasure of fishing the many blue-ribbon trout waters that flow through the state. Montana became an even more popular destination last year with the release of *A River Runs Through It*. The Madison-Gallatin Chapter of TU hopes to capitalize on this increase in notoriety by hosting one of the largest four-day national conventions ever.

In recent years the National Convention has been primarily a business meeting. This year's convention will establish a new tradition by incorporating the spirit of trout and salmon fishing with the friendship of all 450 chapters and 75,000 members across the country.

Events scheduled for this year's convention include a Western BBQ at the Flying D Ranch on the Gallatin River, fly-fishing seminars, a National Conservation Banquet and Auction, a roast of fly-fishing legend Bud Lilly, the traditional U.S. Forest Service luncheon, resource issue presentations, the National Resource Board meeting, the annual membership meeting, and area bus tours of Yellowstone National Park, plus all the September trout fishing one can handle.

The TU Board of Trustees has scheduled its next meeting for Sunday, September 25, to coincide with the National Convention.

"We are taking a new approach to this year's national convention by transforming it from the traditional

business meeting to a festive celebration for wild trout and salmon," said Tom Anacker, co-chairman of the 1994 host committee. "Realtors say the key for a successful sale rests on three words: 'location, location, location.' The motto for a successful convention translates to 'Trout, Trout, Trout.'" The areas rich resources will be a major draw to this year's events. The necessary business meetings will be held, but we are also offering educational seminars on fly-fishing, panel discussions about the future of fishing in the west, and a number of other festivities that will make the event more enjoyable to attend."

Enclosed with this issue of *Lines To Leaders* are registration forms for the 1994 National Convention and the Wild Trout V Symposium. The Summer 1994 issue of *Trout* magazine will contain registration forms for the 1994 National Convention and the Wild Trout V Symposium as well. Individuals wishing to attend either the National Convention or Wild Trout V (or both) can call 1-800-805-4607 to receive the necessary registration forms. Please specify which event you need registration forms for if you are planning to attend only one of these two events.

MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONS

We have received numerous inquiries from chapters regarding TU's office relocation and how it affects the mailing of membership renewals. The TU business reply envelopes for membership renewals and direct mail campaigns continue to have the same P.O. Box address we used prior to the move. There is no change. Please continue to mail membership renewals to the address printed on the business reply envelopes.

ATTENTION: ALL TU CHAPTERS

MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT PROCEDURES

The National TU office continues to receive membership applications which are not marked with the chapter number. It is extremely important that each TU chapter mark all membership applications with their chapter number. The chapter name is not needed on membership applications. Proper marking of membership applications will reduce the amount of time spent processing memberships and expedite the initial contact chapters have with new members. Please mark all membership applications immediately with your chapter number. Don't delay, do it today!

1994 EMBRACE-A-STREAM UPDATE

ESPN's upcoming *On The Fly* fly fishing show will feature the following Embrace-A-Stream projects during its "Habitat Watch" segments:

Adirondack Chapter: Mettawee River, New York -- instream habitat structures;

Iron Furnace Chapter: Mill Creek, Pennsylvania -- acid mine mitigation, and;

Old Pueblo Chapter: West Fork of the Black River, Arizona -- recovery of threatened native Apache trout (also a *Bring Back the Natives* project).

This year's Embrace-A-Stream grant checks were mailed on May 6, 1994. Please contact Christine Arena at 703-284-9415 if you would like summaries of each project.

DEAD LETTER DEPT.

The TU National office continues to receive a lot of mail with old national office addresses. Please remove all old addresses from any mailing lists, databases etc. The three old addresses to look for and remove are:

Trout Unlimited
118 Park Street
Vienna, VA 22180

Trout Unlimited
501 Church Street, NE
Vienna, VA 22180

Trout Unlimited
800 Follin Lane, SE, Suite 250
Vienna, VA 22180-4959

All mail for the national office should be addressed to: Trout Unlimited, 1500 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 310, Arlington, VA 22209-2310.

WILD TROUT V

Trout Unlimited is pleased to announce that *Wild Trout V*, an international symposium addressing the needs, management, and biology of wild trout and salmon populations in North America will be held September 26-27, 1994 at Mammoth Hot Springs in Yellowstone National Park. This symposium is held every five years and the theme of the 1994 conference is "Wild Trout in the 21st Century." Once again the symposium will be cosponsored by Trout Unlimited, the Department of the Interior, USDA Forest Service, Environmental Protection Agency, the American Fisheries Society, and the Federation of Fly Fishers.

The two day symposium will include 30 speakers in panel discussions on the *Role of Wild Trout in North America* (a survey of wild trout management programs across the nation), the *Role of Habitat Protection and Wild Trout*, the *Role of the Endangered Species Act in Wild Trout Management*, and the *Future of Fishing for Wild Trout*. The symposium will have an informal atmosphere in the appropriate and beautiful setting of Mammoth Hot Springs.

Mr. Robert Barbee, Superintendent of Yellowstone National Park, will serve as the symposium host. Messrs. Roger Barnhart, National Biological Survey, and Ron Jones, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, are symposium co-chairs, and Mr. William Shake, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, is program chairman.

For additional information, please contact:

Roger Barnhart
CA Cooperative Fishery Research Unit
Humboldt State University
Arcata, CA 95521
Ph: (707) 826-3268

Ronald D. Jones
P.O. Box 184
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190
Ph: (406) 848-7591 or (307) 344-2280

TROUT UNLIMITED

1994 NATIONAL MEETING
BOZEMAN, MONTANA

SPECIAL TRAVEL PROGRAM

- * 5% DISCOUNT ON ALL EXCURSION FARES TO BOZEMAN AND BILLINGS ON DELTA AIR LINES AND NORTHWEST AIR LINES
- * DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE FOR LAST MINUTE TRAVEL ON DELTA AND NORTHWEST
- * SPECIAL RATES ON CAR RENTAL THROUGH HERTZ AND BUDGET
- * GROUP RATES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE

ALL ARRANGEMENTS MUST BE BOOKED THROUGH:

TRAVEL STATION
1822 WEST LINCOLN
BOZEMAN, MT 59715

1-800-522-8747



Trout Unlimited National Convention Registration Form

35th Annual Convention
September 21-25, 1994
Bozeman, Montana



— Come see Montana and attend the 35th Annual TU Convention. While you are here, fish the Madison, Yellowstone or Gallatin Rivers or try your luck with an "educated" spring creek trout. Trips to see Yellowstone National Park and other local points of interest will be available. Blocks of rooms have been set aside at the following hotels: [Please mention you will be attending the National TU Convention when you make your reservations.] Registration/Check-in at Holiday Inn lobby.

Holiday Inn, 1-800-366-5101 ♦ Grantree Inn, 1-800-624-5865 ♦ Comfort Inn, 1-800-587-3833

— Special rates for airfare and rental cars can be arranged through the Travel Station by calling 1-800-522-8747.

Meeting and Activity Registration				
Convention Day	Event	Cost	Number of Reservations	Total Cost
	Registration Fee	\$30.00 early/\$40.00 at door Early registration deadline is August 31, 1994.	_____	= _____
Thursday	Jennifer Smith Casting Clinic	\$35.00, limited to 15	_____	= _____
	Fly Fishing Demonstrations & Clinics	Free	_____	= -0-
	Resource Seminars	\$5.00 per seminar	— Register at Check-In —	_____
Thursday Evening	Gallatin River Barbecue	\$20.00 per person/\$35.00 per couple	_____	= _____
Friday Lunch	US Forest Service Luncheon	\$12.50 per person	_____	= _____
Friday Evening	Bud Lilly Roast	\$20.00 per person	_____	= _____
Saturday Breakfast	Grassroots Breakfast	\$8.50 per person	_____	= _____
Saturday Lunch	Awards Luncheon	\$12.50 per person	_____	= _____
Saturday Evening	National Banquet	\$30.00 per person/\$50.00 per couple Reservations required in advance due to limited space.	_____	= _____
Sunday	Brunch	\$9.50 per person	_____	= _____
	Total Registration and Activity Cost		_____	= _____

— Payment — Meeting and Banquet must be paid in advance; Activities may be paid for in advance or upon registration in Bozeman.

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Business Name _____ Telephone(Business) _____ (Fax) _____

My check is enclosed for \$ _____ (payable to Madison-Gallatin Chapter TU)

Please charge my credit card for \$ _____ M/C Visa

Card # _____ Exp. Date _____ Signature _____

— Fishing — Please indicate the number of individuals who will require the following:

_____ Professional guide service _____ Transportation information _____ Stream information & maps

Convention Sponsorship

Yes, I (we) would also wish to support the national convention by becoming a SPONSOR with my (our) contribution of \$5,000. Benefits include: Convention registration for 10 people, one 1/2 page ad in *TROUT* Magazine, Table Reservation and admittance for 10 people to the Benefit Banquet and Auction, and a one day Montana fishing trip for two people on the Madison or Yellowstone Rivers.

I (we) will be unable to attend the convention but wish to support the Host Committee and the conservation efforts of Trout Unlimited, Inc. with my contribution of \$ _____

— Mail Completed Form and Payment to —

Madison-Gallatin TU Chapter, c/o Convention Registration
P.O. Box 52, Bozeman, MT 59715

For Additional Information, Contact: Tom Anacker, Co-Chairman, Planning Committee, 406-586-9111.

RETURN:
Trout Unlimited
Mitch Bent
935 South Union St.
Shawano, WI 54166



Wisconsin Trout

Wisconsin Trout Unlimited

Fall 1994

Kinnickinnic River Land Trust Founded

The Kinnickinnic River of western Wisconsin's St. Croix and Pierce counties is one of the state's more treasured aquatic resources. Lying in a serene pastoral area of the state, it has developed a reputation as a multi-faceted recreational waterway.

Trout anglers are especially fond of the "Kinni", as they call it. The rich aquatic ecosystem comprising the "Kinni" has created the base for one of Wisconsin's most prolific trout fisheries. The upper stretch of the Kinnickinnic boasts trout populations up to 12,000 trout per mile, while the lower section contains larger fish and a population of 6,300 trout per mile.

But as with so many other valuable resources, the "Kinni" is being threatened by development. Because of its close proximity to Minnesota's Twin Cities area and its over two million population, the area around the river is being viewed as a potential goldmine by land developers who are bringing pressure to subdivide areas and sell small lots for homesites.

History has shown what happens to riverine systems when excessive development impinges. The unique, intangible values of the ecosystem are removed just as are the tangible values of fish and wildlife.

About eight years ago, then, some landowners from what is called the lower Kinnickinnic canyon convened to discuss the future of the "Kinni". Some were new to the area and others were from families that had farmed land near the river for more than a century.

But they had two things in common: they appreciated the value of the Kinnickinnic in its natural state, and they knew that their river was threatened.

Through a number of meetings, the group came to the conclusion that a "land trust" started and run by local people from the Kinnickinnic River valley would best serve the intentions of preserving the character and integrity of this well-known river.

The Kinnickinnic River Land Trust (KRLT) was thus formed to carry out a mission of protecting the "Kinni". It is now one of over 1,000 land trusts in United States communities that work to conserve land that has natural, recreational, scenic or historic value. The KRLT will promote land conservation by accepting donations of property, buying land or helping landowners establish legal restrictions - called conservation easements - that permanently prevent development that harms natural areas or open space through purchase of development rights.

Not all development is considered harmful, and the KRLT may also use "limited development" strategies to achieve land conservation and water quality goals. In this technique, environmentally less-sensitive parts of a landholding are carefully developed in order to finance land conservation of the more-sensitive areas.

Development rights will be obtained only from interested and willing landowners. A landowner's choice to work with a land trust is always 100 percent voluntary. There is no connection between the conservation easements

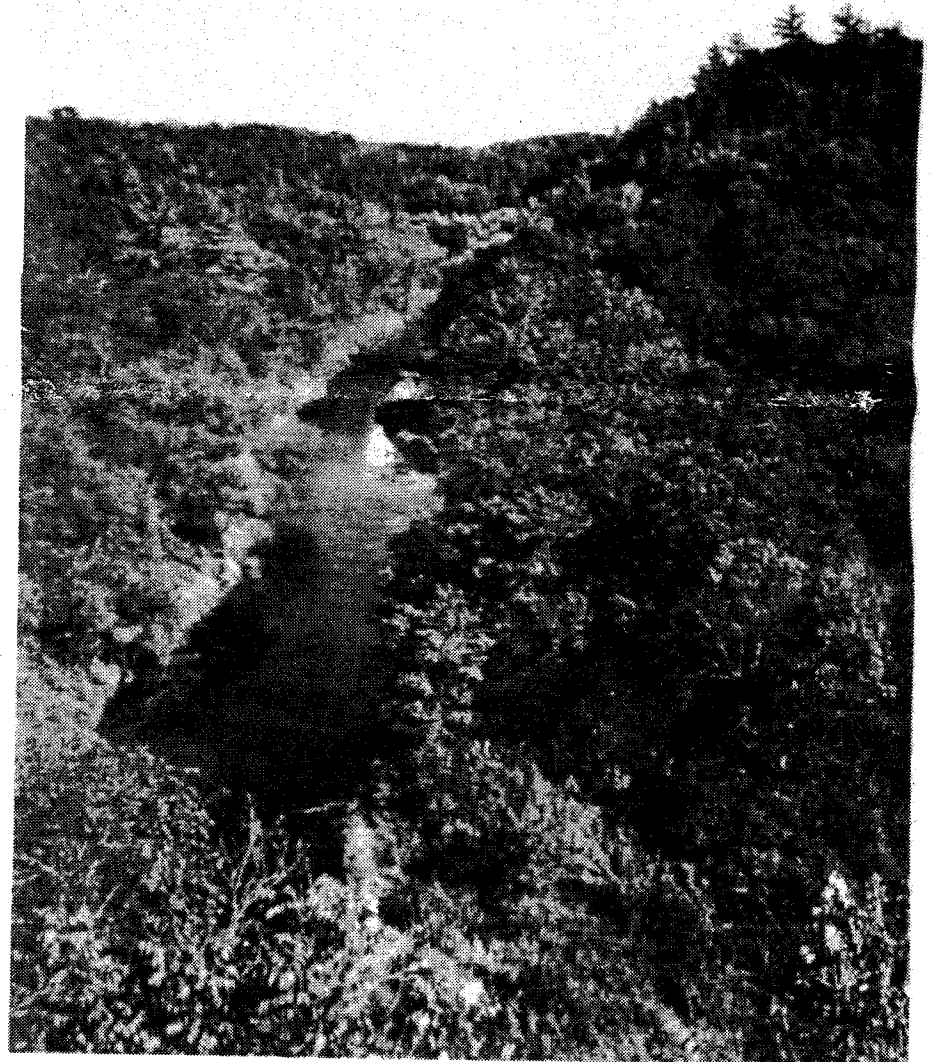
and zoning. And conservation easements do not change hunting and fishing rights.

The KRLT will solicit donations and contributions to help buy conservation easements from willing landowners. Since purchase of land and easements is quite expensive, the KRLT will apply for matching funds via the Wisconsin Stewardship Program to make local

dollars stretch further.

And that is the beauty of land trusts. They are a cost-effective approach to land conservation, because they get results at a cost far below the land's market value, since donations and bargain sales are tax deductible contribu-

Cont. on Page 2



Kinnickinnic Canyon.

Chapter financial statements due

The Wisconsin T.U. State Council will be sending out Financial Statement forms that chapters must fill out for the fiscal year Oct. 1, 1993-Sept. 30, 1994. These forms must be returned to the State Council right away, as they are needed for submission to National T.U. in order for the Council to get its rebate

from T.U. National.

Please be sure that your chapter complies with the State Council's request immediately. We need your cooperation on this. Thanks!

For information, call Forrest Grulke at (414) 739-5155, or Ward Cox at (715) 336-2947.

Annual Meeting, State Banquet set

The Annual Meeting for the Wisconsin State Council of Trout Unlimited has been set for Saturday, January 28, 1995, at the Oshkosh Hilton, 1 North Main Street in Oshkosh.

At the meeting, election for officers for the coming year will be held. Nominations should be submitted in writing to: Steve Born, 424 Washburn Place, Madison, WI 53703. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor the day of the meeting.

The eighth Wisconsin Council Trout

Unlimited Conservation Awards Banquet will be held the evening of January 28th at the Oshkosh Hilton. Cocktails will begin at 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m. Tickets again are \$25 each and can be obtained by using the ticket order form on the back of this paper. Banquet attendees from the 1993 dinner will receive direct ticket order forms in the mail.

Special room rates for those planning to spend the weekend in Oshkosh are available by calling the Hilton at (414) 231-5000.

Council opposes wetland fill permit

The Wisconsin State Council of Trout Unlimited submitted a letter of opposition to the St. Paul District Corps of Engineers office in September regarding a request by Crandon Mining Company (a partnership of Exxon Coal and Minerals Company and Canada-based Rio Algom, Ltd.) to alter or fill approximately 80 acres of wetlands in conjunction with their proposed zinc-copper mine in northern Wisconsin.

The Council objected to the issuance of the permit based upon the following:

*Failure of the applicant to offer alternatives, as required by guidelines,

to proposed wetland filling and altering;

*Failure by the applicant to offer alternatives to disposal of mine tailings into wetlands;

*A lack of options for wastewater discharge; and

*A lack of specificity with regard to its plan to "mitigate" the loss of wetlands.

The permit is being sought by Crandon Mining Company under Section 404 of the federal Clean Water Act. Public comment on the permit was being taken by the Corps of Engineers through September 19th.

✓KRLT

Cont. from Page 1
 tions to a charity.

Also, the KRLT can buy land in fee, place conservation easements upon the property and then re-sell the property with restrictions in order to prevent harmful development.

The KRLT has identified five salient goals for its mission:

1. Involve the community in riverway conservation and seek broad-based support.
2. Identify and protect the natural resources and scenic areas of the Kinnickinnic riverway.
3. Enhance the wild trout resource of the Kinnickinnic River watershed.
4. Improve the water quality of the Kinnickinnic watershed.
5. Obtain and manage funds that are sufficient to accomplish the Trust's goals of land and water conservation, education and long-term stewardship.

Since the concept of a "trust" for the Kinnickinnic valley has begun, many good things have already happened. A Board of Directors and a Steering Committee have been created to guide the conservation process. Standing committees such as Legal, Finance, Land Projects and Publicity-Education-Outreach have been formed, and the KRLT has applied to the Internal Revenue Service for its non-profit charity status, known as 501(c) 3 status.

The KRLT has been awarded three grants already to assist it with its endeavors, including: 1) \$1,000 from The Conservation Fund, a Washington, D.C., foundation, to conduct a biological survey of the Kinnickinnic canyon area; 2) \$2,500 from the Rivers and Trails Conservation Assistance (a division of the National Park Service) to help produce a full color membership brochure; and 3) \$750 from the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, Inc., to locate and map tributary springs and monitor stream temperatures.

One of the encouraging things that helps all these efforts is that the "Kin-



Trout angler fishing the Kinnickinnic River.

ni" is still in such good ecological health. For over 50 years, community efforts have been made to restore and enhance this valuable river resource, including:

- *Farmers working with federal, state and county agencies to reduce soil erosion;
- *The Department of Natural Resources and the Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter of Trout Unlimited working together with other sportsmen's groups to stabilize river banks, fence buffer strips, improve habitat and manage vegetation;
- *The City of River Falls adopting an erosion control ordinance, upgrading

its sewage treatment plant and building area retention basins to help control stormwater runoff, as well as modifying the way water is released from dams;

*The adoption of "River Protection Ordinances" by the Townships of Clifton and River Falls to avoid haphazard development that has harmed the nearby Apple River;

*A cooperative venture by the University of Wisconsin-River Falls to train students about land and water conservation so as to provide labor and skills to improve the South Fork of the Kinnickinnic where it flows through the UW-River Falls campus, with the goal of achieving a Class I status for that stretch.

Above all else, the KRLT needs commitment from concerned individuals and groups to achieve its goals. Membership in the KRLT runs from \$15 annually for students to \$35 per year for individuals to \$200(+) for Benefactors (see Membership Form accompanying this article). Individuals are encouraged to contribute to this unique fund set up to protect and conserve the "Kinni", which is not only one of Wisconsin's premier trout streams but is also listed as one of the best trout streams in the entire Upper Midwest.

For more information on the KRLT, call (715) 425-5738, or write to the KRLT at: N8203 - 1130th St., River Falls, Wis. 54022.

~ The Kinnickinnic River ~

The Kinnickinnic is a beautiful spring-fed stream that runs for 22 miles through Western Wisconsin. The upper reaches of the Kinni flow through the rolling pastures and farmland of St. Croix County. The lower river, below the City of River Falls, cascades through a spectacular and scenic 9-mile long limestone canyon almost 200 feet deep. The Kinnickinnic River enters the St. Croix River in Kinnickinnic State Park.

There are pine forests, weeping cliffs, oak savannas, and goat prairies—the Kinnickinnic watershed is home to 40 Endangered, Threatened, or Special Concern plant and animal species.

The wild trout resource of the Kinni watershed is unexcelled in Western Wisconsin. The DNR has found up to 8,000 trout per mile in the upper river—which has State Fishery Areas with numerous public access points. Even in downtown River Falls, the fishing off Main Street is very good. The State of Wisconsin has declared the Kinnickinnic an "Outstanding Resource Water," it's highest designation.

The Kinnickinnic River Land Trust

There are now more than 1,000 land trusts in communities of the United States working to conserve land that has natural, recreational, scenic, or historic value. Like the Nature Conservancy, our goal is to protect land permanently.

The mission of the Kinnickinnic River Land Trust is to protect natural areas, preserve beautiful scenery, conserve the wild trout resource, protect rare plant and animal species, and improve the water quality of the Kinnickinnic watershed.

What We Do and How We Do It

The Trust conserves land and water by working directly with landowners: accepting donations of property, buying land, and helping landowners establish legal restrictions—called conservation easements—that permanently prevent development that threatens natural areas and open space. The Trust works only with interested and willing landowners.

How You Can Help Protect the Kinnickinnic River

The Land Trust raises money to protect land and support the operations of the Trust. Land trusts are a cost-effective tool for land and water conservation—donations of land or easements to the Kinnickinnic River Land Trust can provide tax deductions for landowners. The Trust is a registered non-profit conservation organization and is run by dedicated volunteers. When we buy conservation easements or property, we try to match your donations with money from the State of Wisconsin's Land Stewardship grants—a program designed to help local, non-profit conservation groups, like the Kinnickinnic River Land Trust, protect land and improve water quality.

As a member, you will get the Kinnickinnic River Land Trust's newsletter, and notices of the annual meeting and special events. Most of all, you will have the lasting satisfaction of helping to protect a beautiful canyon and a rare river.

~ The Kinnickinnic River Land Trust ~
 N8203 1130th Street
 River Falls, Wisconsin 54022
 715-425-1739

We are a member of the Land Trust Alliance, the national organization of conservation land trusts.

Membership Form

tear here and return

- Student \$15 _____
- Individual \$35 - \$99 _____
- Sponsor \$100 - \$199 _____
- Benefactor \$200+ _____

Please make your check for dues payable to:
The Kinnickinnic River Land Trust

Is this a gift membership? _____

Name _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone () _____ day evening (circle one)

Return this part of the page, with your check, to:
The Kinnickinnic River Land Trust
 N8203 1130th Street
 River Falls, WI 54022

The Trust has applied for 501-C-3 charity status. Under IRS guidelines, the estimated value of the Trust's newsletter is considered insubstantial, and therefore the full amount of membership dues and donations will be tax deductible after we receive IRS approval.

KINNICKINNIC RIVER FACTS

Length

- 22 miles in length overall.

Watershed Area

- 140 square miles (96,000 acres)

Flow

- ~95 cubic feet per second at County F bridge.
- ~33 cubic feet per second at Hwy. 35.
- ~6 cubic feet per second where South Fork enters main river.

Designations

- "Outstanding Resource Water"; highest designation by DNR.
- Class 1 trout stream (naturally-reproducing wild trout).
- Proposed for addition to the Nationwide Rivers Inventory.
- 1992 survey in Clifton found that 89% of the residents and landowners wanted "special protection for the Kinnickinnic River valley."

Plants and Animals

- 40 Endangered, Threatened, or Special Concern species in the watershed.
- 500 vascular plant species (40% of all plant species found in Wisconsin).
- 100 non-vascular plants (mosses, lichens, etc.).
- 140 bird species (50% of all the species found in Wisconsin).

Earlier Efforts

- 1969-72 River Falls Chamber of Commerce, produced Beaver and McCool Plan
- 1975-76 Pierce County Park proposal, 800 signed petition in favor, Citizens for the Preservation of the Lower Kinnickinnic formed.
- 1979-81 U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1900 acre "Unique Wildlife Ecosystem."

Fishing

- Upper river has up to 12,000 trout per mile.
- Lower river has up to 6,300 trout per mile.
- No stocking of trout since 1974.
- 'One of the best trout streams in the upper Midwest' (Fly Fisherman magazine, July 1989).

Kinnickinnic River Land Trust, Inc.
 N8203 1130th St.
 River Falls, WI 54022
 715-425-5738

Wisconsin T.U. Council/Chapter Directory

Chairman: Forrest Grulke, 1356 Home Avenue, Menasha, WI 54952 (414) 739-5155 (H)

Vice-Chairman: G. Topf Wells, 4914 Marathon Drive, Madison, WI 53705 (608) 231-3037

Secretary: Dave Johnson, 143 Water St., #108, Berlin, WI 54923 (414) 361-3046 (H)

Treasurer: Ward Cox, N18690 Ten Acre Rd., Goodman, WI 54125 (414) 336-2947

Past Chairman: Steve Born, 424 Washburn Place, Madison, WI 53703 (608) 257-6625 (H)

Fund-raising: John Cantwell, 2286 Mt. Olive, Green Bay, WI 54313 (414) 435-1919 (O); (414) 434-3989 (H)

Legal Counsel: Winston Ostrow, 335 Trader's Point Ln., Green Bay, WI 54302 (414) 469-1596 (H)

Publications: Mitch Bent, 935 South Union St., Shawano, WI 54166 (715) 524-5886

Water Resources: Russ Bouck, 9357 Nelson Rd., Amherst Junction, WI 54407 (715) 824-3781

Youth/Education: Dale Lange, N3167 Right-of-Way Rd., Peshtigo, WI 54157 (715) 582-4172 (H)

Membership: Jim Hlaban, 1421 Silverwood, Neenah, WI 54956 (414) 722-4335

Aldo Leopold Chapter (#375): Clint Byrnes, 921 S. Spring St., Beaver Dam, WI 53916 (414) 885-5335

Antigo Chapter (#313): Scott Henricks, 213 Mary St., Antigo, WI 54409 (715) 623-3867

Blackhawk Chapter (#390): Terry Vaughn, 4710 Creek Rd., Beloit, WI 53511 (608) 362-4295

Central WI Chapter: Russ Bouck, 9357 Nelson Rd., Amherst Junction, WI 54407 (715) 824-3781

Coulee Region Chapter (#278): John Bethke, 118 Vernon St., Westby, WI 54667; (608) 634-3641

Fox Valley Chapter (#193): Gene Weber, 1121 W. Northland, Appleton, WI 54914 (414) 739-1168

Frank Hornberg Chapter (#624): Jeff Dimick, 348 Maple St., Rosholt, WI 54473 (715) 677-4947

Green Bay Chapter (#083): Janet Smith, 3358 Nautical Ave., Green Bay, WI 54311 (414) 433-3803 (O); (414) 468-6154 (H)

Harry Nohr Chapter: Joe Bodewes, 329 W. Division, Dodgeville, WI 53533 (608) 935-2533

Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter (#168): Gary Horvath, 623 W. Pine St., River Falls, WI 54022-2036 (715) 425-8489

Lakeshore Chapter (#423): Jeff Preiss, 15915 CTH "C", Valders, WI 54245 (414) 773-2693 (H)

Marinette County Chapter (#422): Dale Lange, N3167 Right-of-Way Rd., Peshtigo, WI 54157 (715) 582-4172 (H)

Northwoods Chapter (#256): Bill Sherer, 6272 Oswego Fishtrap Lake Road, Boulder Junction, WI 54512-9721 (715) 385-2186

Oconto River Watershed Chapter (#385): Dave Brunner, 5473 Cardinal Rd., Gillett, WI 54124 (414) 855-6669

(H) **Ojibseau Chapter (#255):** John Welter, 204 E. Grand Ave., P.O. Box 358, Eau Claire, WI 54702 (715) 832-3494 (O); (715) 832-7028 (H)

Shaw-Paca Chapter (#381): Jerry Weatherwax, RR 3, Box 203A, Shawano, WI 54166 (715) 524-5642 (H) (715) 823-2180

Southeastern WI Chapter (#078): Jon P. Christiansen, 237 Aster Lane, Mequon, WI 53092 (414) 241-5220 (H)

Southern WI Chapter (#061):

David Ogletree, 2661 Milwaukee, St., Madison, WI 53704 (608) 246-4227 (H)

Wild Rivers Chapter (#415): Paul Gilbert, RR 1, Box 24, Cable, WI 54821 (715) 798-3218 (H)

Wisconsin River Valley Chapter (#395): Herb Hintze, 629 Hamilton St., Wausau, WI 54401 (715) 842-1365 (H)

Wolf River Chapter (#050): Herb Buettner, N4297 Buettner Road, White Lake, WI 54491 (715) 882-8610

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Wisconsin T.U. Chapter meeting times, locations

Aldo Leopold: When needed or called; at Beaver Dam Conservation Club, CTH "G", Beaver Dam.

Antigo: Not listed.

Blackhawk: Third Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at UW-Rock County Campus (South Building).

Central Wisconsin: Board meetings at Tilly's in Wautoma on second Monday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

Coulee Region: Not given.

Fox Valley: Third Thursday of the month, 7:30 p.m., at The Forester Club, Spencer St., Appleton.

Frank Hornberg Chapter: Second Thursday of the month, 7:00 p.m. at Shooter's Supper Club, Hwys. 51 & 54, Plover.

Green Bay: First Thursday of September, October, November, January, February, March and April at Maricque's, 1517 University Ave., Green Bay at 7:30 p.m. May picnic/meeting at the Brown County Reforestation Camp. December Christmas/awards dinner at site to be determined. No chapter meetings June-Aug.

Kiap-TU-Wish: First Wednesday of the month at The Hudson House in Hudson. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.; meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Lakeshore: Second Monday of the month, 7:30 p.m. at The Club Bil-Mar, Old Hwy. 141, Manitowoc.

Marinette County: First Tuesday

of the month, 7:00 p.m., at The Dome, 751 University Drive, Marinette.

Harry Nohr: Not given.

Northwoods: Third Thursday of the month, 7:30 p.m., at Valley First National Bank (Community Room), Stevens at Davenport Streets, Rhinelander.

Oconto River Watershed: First Wednesday of the month, 7:45 p.m., at the Lone Oak Gun Club, Hwy. 32 North, Gillett.

Ojibseau: Second Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m., at the Eau Claire Rod & Gun Club, Eau Claire.

Shaw-Paca: Third Thursday of the month, 8:00 p.m., at the Corner Bar, County "M", in Pella (Shawano County).

Southeastern Wisconsin: Fourth Tuesday of the month. Dinner at 6:00 p.m., meeting at 7:30 p.m. At the Bavarian Wursthau, 8310 Appleton Ave., Milwaukee.

Southern Wisconsin: Second Tuesday of the month, dinner at 6:00 p.m., meeting at 7:00 p.m. At the Maple Tree Restaurant, McFarland.

Wild Rivers: Not given.

Wisconsin River Valley: First Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., at the North Central Technical College, Wausau.

Wolf River: At various times. Call Herb Buettner (715-882-8612) for information.

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WISCONSIN TROUT WATERS

DNR trout stream information transferred to county maps.

Maps show Class I & II streams with color overlay.

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Council meets in "Coulee Country"

The Wisconsin State Council of Trout Unlimited met August 27th at the West Fork Sportsmen's Club in the town of Avalanche (Vernon County). All chapters were represented at the meeting except Antigo, Harry Nohr, Oconto River Watershed and Wisconsin River Valley.

The morning session was highlighted by the presence of T.U. National Executive Director Charles Gauvin, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Secretary George Meyer and University of Wisconsin Extension Agent for the La Farge Project, Alan Andersen.

Speaking first, Gauvin acknowledged the leadership role that Wisconsin T.U. has played in environmental issues in the state, and he praised the Council's efforts at taking a "watershed approach" to dealing with resource issues, which is something he said that T.U. National has also adopted. He also spoke briefly on T.U.'s "conservancy" program, which is designed to protect vital coldwater resource riparian areas through a combination of easement procurements, fee title acquisitions and establishment of deed restrictions to contain or limit development in riparian zones.

Andersen spoke to the T.U. representatives specifically about the study being done on the economic impact that trout fishing has - and could have - in the "coulee country" of western and southwestern Wisconsin. He noted that, with increased restoration of a few prime streams in the coulee region, that trout anglers have spent about \$175,000 through the early part of the study. Andersen said that they would expect more economic benefits would come to the region if more of the degraded coldwater resources of that area were to be restored so as to attract additional anglers - and additional dollars - to this region which is relatively poor compared to other state areas in per capita income.

Meyer addressed the T.U. members next. He praised the State Council for its long history of responsible activism on environmental issues such as: rules regarding road and bridge construction

over streams; the evolution of the new inland trout fishing regulations; development of rules regarding toxics and "antidegradation" of waters; wetlands protection; and "Priority Watershed" selections.

In the afternoon, chapter representatives and Council members were treated to a stream shocking demonstration carried out by DNR fish manager Dave Vetrano and his crew on Timber Coulee Creek in the northern part of Vernon County. In a stretch of stream that has only the standard regulation for Vernon County, i.e., three trout per day with a nine-inch size limit, the DNR team shocked an outstanding number of trout, giving credence to the notions that good riparian stewardship of streambanks combined with limited trout harvest by humans can set the stage for an abundant stream fishery.

After the stream shocking demonstration, Council representatives heard a presentation on metallic mining in northern Wisconsin by Rebecca Leighton-Katers of Green Bay and Dominic Nuzzo of Madison. The two discussed the environmental concerns surrounding the proposed copper-zinc mine by Exxon Corporation and Rio Algom, Ltd. (a.k.a. "Crandon Mining Company") in southwestern Forest County.

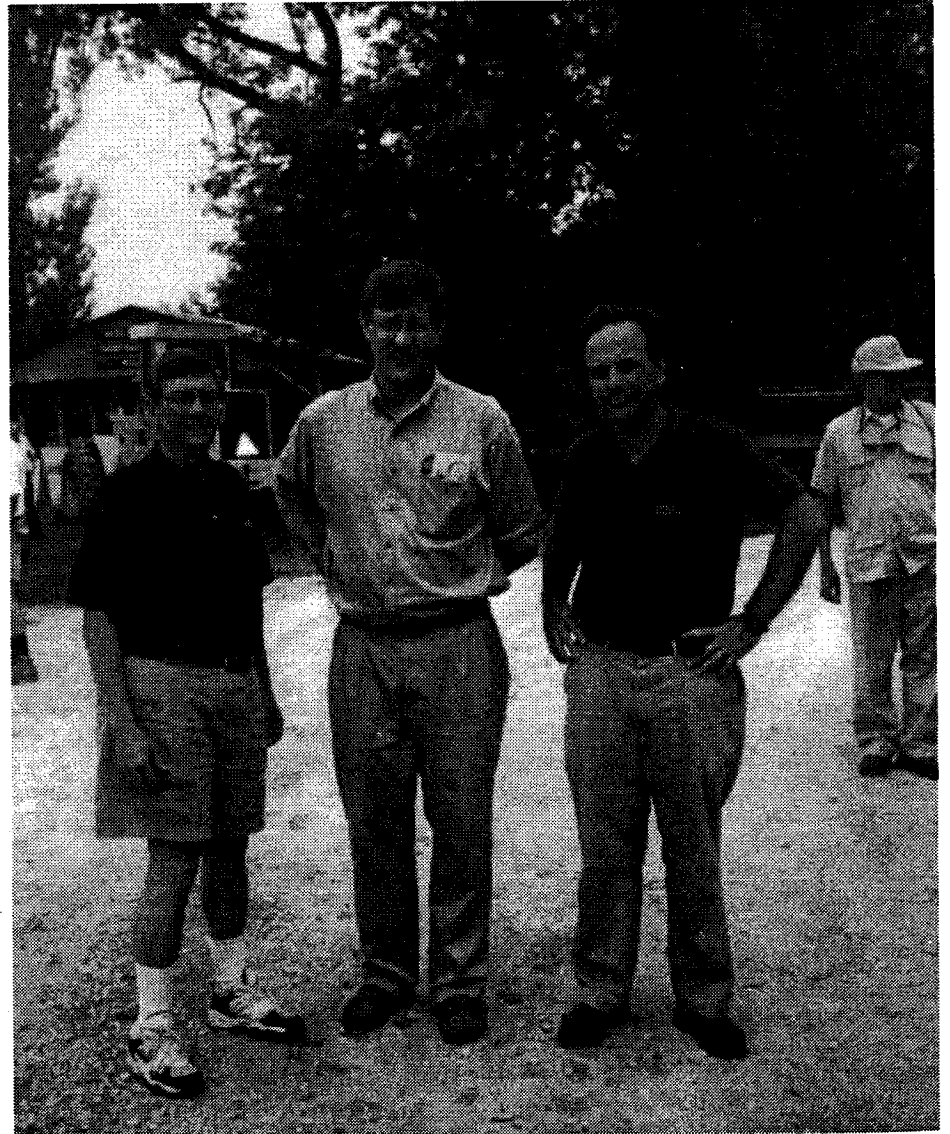
Council business conducted at the meeting entailed:

- *notice that the 1995 Annual Meeting and Council Banquet will be held on Saturday, January 28th, at the Oshkosh Hilton Hotel and Conference Center in downtown Oshkosh;

- *a move to have Russ Bouck replace John Crane as head of the Water Resources Committee for Wisconsin T.U.;

- *action to have Wisconsin T.U. respond to the Public Notice from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers regarding a request by Crandon Mining Company for a permit to discharge fill material into wetlands;

- *reports on activities of membership, "Friends of Wisconsin T.U." and the "catch-and-release" committees.




(left to right) DNR secretary George Meyer; UW-Extension/La Farge project agent Al Andersen; and T.U. Executive Director Charles Gauvin spoke to T.U. State Council on Aug. 27th in Vernon County.




A stream shocking demonstration on Timber Coulee Creek was part of the Aug. 27th State Council meeting.

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WISCONSIN COUNCIL TROUT UNLIMITED						8/25/94		
CHAPTER BOUNDARIES AND MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS								
CHAPTER	NUM	BOUNDARIES COUNTIES/AREA	MEMBERSHIP					
			1/91	1/92	1/93	12/93	4/94	7/94
WOLF RIVER	50	BOARDERING WOLF RIVER TROUT WATER	48	48	63	79	81	81
SOUTHERN WISCONSIN	61	DANE & JEFFERSON	365	348	432	409	448	467
SOUTHEAST WISCONSIN	78	WASHINGTON, OZAUKEE, WAUKESHA, MILWAUKEE, WALWORTH, RACINE & KENOSHA	257	246	312	302	317	326
GREEN BAY	83	BROWN & DOOR	172	172	189	172	178	185
CENTRAL WISCONSIN	117	ADAMS, WAUSHARA, MARQUETTE, GREEN LAKE, FOND DU LAC & WINNEBAGO	191	169	198	190	191	193
KIAP TU WISH	168	POLK, ST CROIX, PIERCE & PEPIN	132	126	146	128	134	141
FOX VALLEY	193	OUTAGAMIE	199	200	210	191	192	196
OJIBLEAU	255	BUFFALO, EAU CLAIRE, CLARK, JACKSON, TREMPAULEAU, CHIPPEWA, DUNN, BARRON & RUSK	71	104	128	111	115	123
NORTHWOODS	256	FOREST, FLORENCE, ONIEDA & VILAS	46	48	58	59	64	66
HARRY NOHR	257	GRANT, IOWA, LAFAYETTE & CRAWFORD	33	41	49	35	34	31
COULEE REGION	278	LACROSSE, MONROE, JUNEAU, VERNON & RICHLAND	49	51	56	44	43	45
ANTIGO	313	LANGLADE	41	27	44	44	40	41
ALDO LEOPOLD	375	COLUMBIA, DODGE & SAUK	53	47	51	41	41	39
SHAWPACA	381	SHAWANO & WAUPACA	79	66	67	57	63	67
OCONTO RIVER	385	OCONTO RIVER WATERSHED	68	64	79	69	70	77
BLACKHAWK	390	GREEN & ROCK	89	93	102	83	79	88
WISCONSIN RIVER VALLEY	395	LINCOLN, MARATHON, PRICE, & TAYLOR	92	83	83	59	67	78
WILD RIVERS	415	DOUGLAS, BAYFIELD, ASHLAND, IRON, BURNETT, WASHBURN & SAWYER	16	35	43	43	46	44
MARINETTE COUNTY	422	MARINETTE	63	61	70	61	65	66
LAKESHORE	423	MANITOWOC, KEWAUNEE, SHEBOYGAN & CALUMET	71	77	74	77	86	91
FRANK HORNBERG	624	PORTAGE & WOOD		27	39	53	53	56
			2135	2133	2493	2307	2407	2501

FISHNET reviews Forest Service fisheries programs

During the latter part of May of this year, representatives of a coalition of organizations concerned with the conservation and enhancement of aquatic resources (collectively known as FISHNET) traveled to the U.S. Forest Service's Eastern Region (Region 9) to review the progress of the fisheries and aquatic ecology program.

Representatives of this coalition were Neal Emerald (National Grassroots Coordinator for Trout Unlimited) and Andrew Loftus (Assistant Director for Science and Special Projects for the American Sportfishing Association). Helping with logistics and back-

ground material were Don Duff (National T.U./U.S. Forest Service Partnership Coordinator), Harv Forsgren (U.S. Forest Service National Fisheries Program Leader), Bob Hollingsworth (Regional Fisheries Program Leader) and Henry Parrott (Regional Hydrology Program Leader).

During the five-day review, team members visited the Regional office in Milwaukee and three forests within the region: the Huron-Manistee National Forest in Lower Michigan; the Hiawatha National Forest in Upper Michigan; and the Nicolet National Forest in Wisconsin.

The review directed focus on six key

program elements that included: accountability, effectiveness, ecosystem management, partnerships, program opportunities and forest planning.

During the field reviews, FISHNET members observed various projects that have been done on National Forest with regard to fishery management. On the tour of the Nicolet National Forest, members observed projects done on the forest such as the hydraulic dredging of a spring pond, in-stream habitat work and other such efforts.

Subsequent to the review, FISHNET members analyzed the situations on these National Forests insofar as fish-

eries programs are concerned.

One of their main concerns is the existence of vacant staff positions in the Nicolet and Huron-Manistee National Forest units. Both Forests are understaffed with fisheries personnel to begin with, and these vacancies are increasing the problems that are occurring with the fisheries programs in those two National Forests.

FISHNET also praised the Regional program leadership for exercising wise oversight responsibility in their budgetary process, thus maintaining the integrity of the fisheries program in the region.

Barbless hooks work well for catch-and-release fishing

By Lee Kernan

Anyone who fishes knows that now and then it seems almost impossible to get the hook out of a fish's mouth. It doesn't bother me when it happens with a nice round ten-inch perch. I just reach in its mouth with a long-nose pliers and pull it out and drop the fish in the cooler.

It does bother me when a beautiful, undersized smallmouth bass is hooked so firmly that you really can't squeeze the little guy hard enough to get the leverage you need to remove that hook without choking the life out of him.

In such cases, I recommend cutting the line as soon as you learn the hook doesn't come out easily. The hook will quickly rust and corrode away. But there is another approach.

Barbless hooks come out so easily that some anglers fear they'll lose too many fish if they use them. My experience hasn't shown this--if you keep a tight line to the fish while you're playing it.

Although barbless hooks are available, you don't have to buy some to try them out--you can easily make your own. Just take your fishing pliers and squeeze firmly right on the point of the barb and squash it toward the hook itself.

This will either break off the tip or bend it flat. Either result works fine. You will be amazed how easily that hook comes out of the next fish.

This will work on any hook including artificial lures. I guess I'll always remember a pretty little 15-inch musky that attacked my giant musky jerk bait with such abandon that he was literally plastered to the side of that plug.



Lee Kernan

I worked and worked to release this young fish, but the barbs on those huge hooks made it almost impossible. I'm sure that fish died from its injuries. Today I'm willing to lose an occasional fish in return for the ease of releasing them from barbless hooks.

The Province of Manitoba, Canada, passed a law in 1990 that requires that all hooks be barbless. It's working quite well there, and they intend to keep that new law in order to save fish.

I suspect we will follow suit someday in Wisconsin although we have no such plans in the near future. In the meantime, I hope a lot of you will give barbless hooks a try, especially in waters where you are fishing for fun like for the smallmouth bass in Chequamegon Bay or Door County.

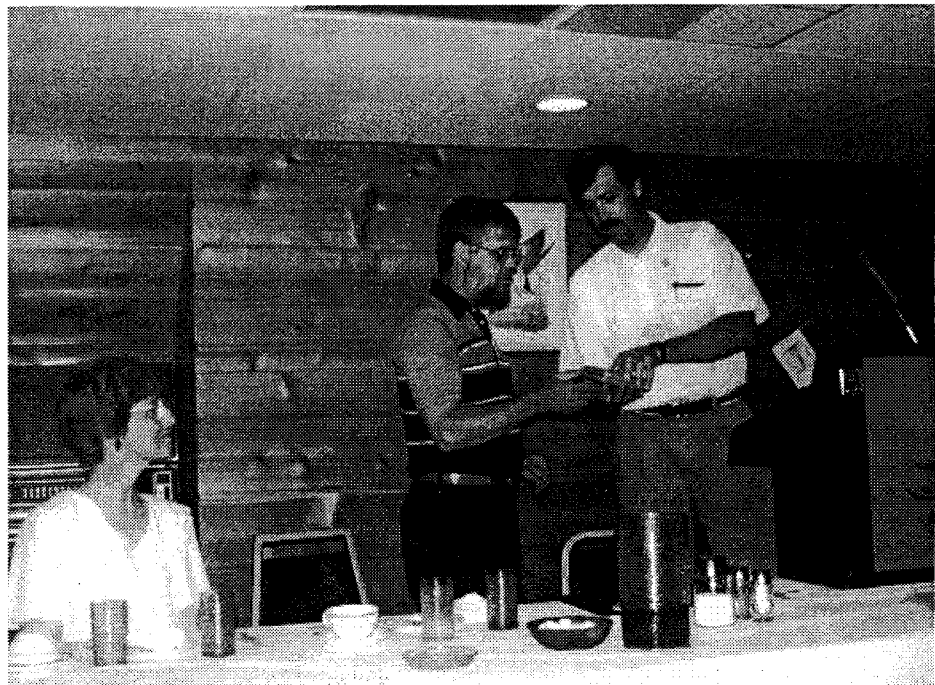
If you can find the time, please drop me a letter at P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707 on your experiences going barbless.



FISHNET members observe habitat work done on South Branch Oconto River in the Nicolet National Forest.



Antigo Area DNR fish manager Max Johnson (background) talks to FISHNET representatives along shore of Saul Springs in Langlade County with in the Nicolet National Forest.



Don Hair (left) receives an Orvis fly case with "Montana" flies tied by Bill Sherer (right), president of the Northwoods T.U. Chapter.

Don Hair leaves the Nicolet Forest

Nicolet National Forest fisheries biologist Don Hair has left the Nicolet Forest to assume a similar position with the Flathead National Forest near Kalispell, Montana.

Hair came to Wisconsin around 1989 and was stationed at the Nicolet National Forest Headquarters in Rhineland. During his short five-year stay, Hair became involved in a multitude of coldwater and warmwater fishery projects on the Nicolet too numerous to mention.

And while in Rhineland, Hair was

an active member of the Northwoods Chapter of Trout Unlimited, serving as a member of the chapter's Board of Directors and acting as the coordinator for habitat projects.

Don's easy-going personality, down-to-earth attitudes and strong biological knowledge will be missed. Wisconsin Trout Unlimited certainly wishes Don and his family the very best in his new professional pursuit, and we are grateful for having had the opportunity to work with someone of Don's exceptional character.

Secretary outlines plan to promote outdoor skills

Assuring a healthy future for hunting and fishing in Wisconsin is a goal which Secretary George Meyer says will form a major focus for the Department of Natural Resources.

Meyer notes that hunting, fishing and trapping can be life-long pursuits that grow richer and more meaningful with time. Participation in these activities draws people closer to the land and water, and helps them develop an appreciation for the diversity of plant and animal life around them, thereby helping promote continued stewardship of these resources in Wisconsin, says Meyer.

The department is addressing the future of these recreational pursuits using a three-pronged effort:

- 1) a study of fish and game management in Wisconsin to assess the department's capability to manage these resources in the 1990's and beyond;
- 2) analysis of the factors that contribute to or inhibit interest in hunting and fishing; and
- 3) the development of an outdoor skills initiative.

Secretary Meyer introduced the skills program at the 60th anniversary meeting of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress in Stevens Point.

Secretary Meyer introduced the skills program at the 60th anniversary meeting of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress in Stevens Point.

The purpose and mission of the Skills Initiative is to:

*Assure that all interested Wisconsin youth and adults have opportunities to learn hunting, fishing and trapping

skills as well as related outdoor skills such as orienteering, camping and outdoor cooking.

*Foster land stewardship ethics as first articulated by Aldo Leopold.

*Create partnerships that will build on, support and enhance access to established hunter education and outdoor skills programs.

Funding and staff for this initiative will come from adjusting existing department staff time and budgets and from future budget requests. However, the key to its success will be major partnerships the department builds with conservation organizations, businesses and individuals.

During a six-month period, an internal skills team used a variety of public participation methods to identify actions that should be taken. They include:

***Supporting Sporting Club Efforts to Teach Skills.**

There is a strong commitment among sportswomen, sportsmen and organizations to conduct skills training. The department should build upon and support this outstanding record of community service.

The future of hunting and fishing rests with the thousands of committed men and women who devote their time, knowledge and abilities to this effort.

Planned actions include: increasing the availability of ready-to-use instructional materials; developing a modest matching grant program for clubs and other organizational sponsors; providing advice and assistance on adequate liability coverage for events; fostering

partnerships among sporting goods manufacturers and retailers, skills instructors, sporting and youth organizations; encouraging development of mentor programs; working with organizations to sponsor attendance at workshops, camps, summer programs, etc.

***Increasing Opportunities to Use DNR Lands for Skills Training.**

The department should make better use of its existing properties as places to teach skills. This should include: allowing special hunts before or after normally designated seasons; reserving portions of a property for special hunts; allowing special hunts for youth or other designated groups of people; permitting the hunts to be conducted by volunteers; and securing authority to charge a fee to cover the costs of conducting special hunts.

Planned actions include: seeking statutory and administrative rule authority to conduct activities on state properties (in 1995); developing administrative rules specifying properties by early 1996; developing educational materials and conducting the first hunts in the fall of 1996; developing guidelines by July 1, 1995, for expanding target shooting opportunities at designated sites; making DNR lands more available for sponsor organizations.

***Improving Skills Training Opportunities Outreach to Youth.**

Survey results indicated that hunters and anglers would like the department to be active in working with school systems and youth organizations.

Many feel that the roles of hunting and fishing in our culture and history are not adequately explained in the school systems and that anti-hunting and anti-resource management materials are not adequately balanced by pro-hunting and pro-resource management information.

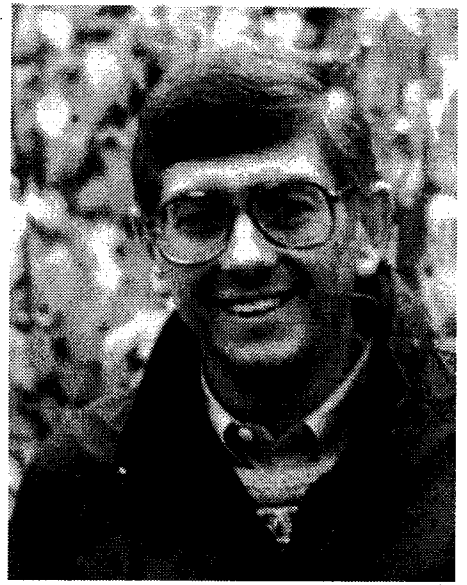
Planned actions: improving existing skills outreach to schools; charting new pathways of cooperation to involve schools, teachers and youth who traditionally are not reached with the hunting and fishing skills messages;

Working with the Conservation Congress to develop program materials and training for in-school presentations for Congress delegates and others.

***Act as a Clearinghouse for Information on Skills Training.**

The department can be of additional service publicizing available skills and education activities. There is no central place to find information about skills training opportunities. Interested individuals cannot easily obtain information on activities occurring in various parts of the state.

Planned actions: establishing an information clearinghouse within the department to publicize hunting, fishing and trapping skills opportunities that will include: a statewide information base of skills training opportunities operated from a central control point; a single phone number (possibly



George Meyer

toll-free) to call for information; and publication of weekly lists for media use.

***Increase the Visibility of Hunting, Fishing and Trapping as Recreation.**

The department should do more to promote the visibility of hunting, fishing and trapping as recreational pursuits.

Actions suggested: developing improved partnerships with the state news media to publicize hunting and fishing as enjoyable outdoor activities; exploring working with Wisconsin-oriented outdoors radio and television shows on skills programming; increasing the visibility of hunting, fishing and trapping skills in DNR publications; sponsoring the 1995 Governor's Symposium on North America's Hunting Heritage; continuing the Sandhill Outdoor Skills program and developing hunting, fishing and trapping skills programs for use at existing club and DNR facilities throughout the state.

In his address to the Conservation Congress, Meyer said: "Every rod and gun club in this state needs to pick this up as a challenge to reach out to the kids in their communities. To reach out to kids by knocking on doors, putting ads in newspapers, by advertising on local radio stations stating 'Come to our club and learn how to hunt, fish and trap.'"

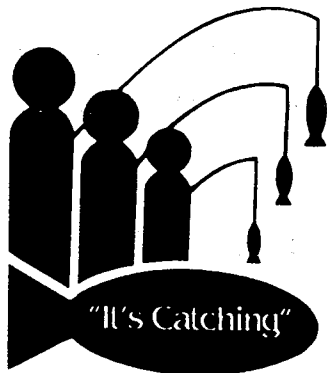
Meyer challenged each county Congress delegation to take the lead in sponsoring one field day or a youth hunt or an outdoor skills day.

"Find out what works, what doesn't work, get people involved," he told them.

Meyer also challenged those in the audience to introduce one new boy or girl to fishing this year.

"Please reach out to your neighbor's child, maybe a child of a relative of yours that doesn't hunt or fish and take that boy or girl out fishing with you.

"But take a kid fishing who hasn't fished before. Get him or her hooked on fishing. There are so many other things that are far worse for children to be hooked on," Meyer said.



River Network

The River Network is a support center for grassroots organizations working on river protection issues. The Network provides a wide range of services in the areas of information, networking, strategic guidance, and fund-raising assistance.

The River Clearinghouse provides information, referrals, and advice to grassroots river guardians.

The River Leadership Program works to establish and strengthen state river councils, citizen organizations that work for river protection at the state and regional level.

The River Wealth Program works to help grassroots river organizations lay a solid financial base for themselves.

The Riverlands Conservancy works with local people to purchase threatened riverlands along outstanding streams.

TU chapters and councils should consider tapping into the wealth of information assembled by the River Network. For information on the River Network, contact: River Network, P.O. Box 8787, Portland, OR 97207; or call (503) 241-3506.

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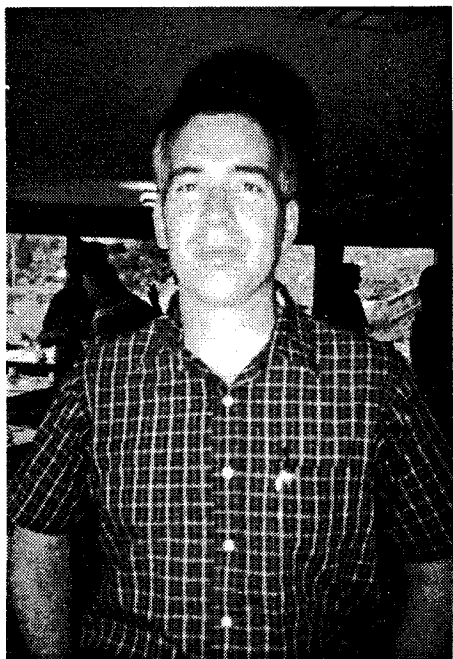
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 Vienna, VA 22180-4959

All mail for the national office should be addressed to: Trout Unlimited, 1500 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 310, Arlington, VA 22209-2310.

Northeast Regional meeting



Mike Coshun was introduced to the Northeast Region as the new Fisheries Supervisor for the Woodruff Area.

The Northeast Region of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited met Saturday, July 9, at Buettner's Wild Wolf Inn south of Langlade. All chapters in the region were represented except for Green Bay and Oconto River Watershed.

Guest speaker for the meeting was Greg Lindner of ECCOLA, which stands for "Environmentally Concerned Citizens of Lakeland Areas." Lindner gave an hour-long presentation on his group's opposition to metallic mining in northern Wisconsin, in particular the proposed mine near Crandon, WI., by Exxon Corporation and Rio Algom, Ltd. (a.k.a. "Crandon Mining Company").

Lindner detailed many abuses that mining operations have caused to surface water and ground water ecosystems over the years, and he noted where abuses occurred from mines operated by Exxon and Rio Algom, the two partners in the proposed Crandon mine.

He also suggested that the real intent of the mine is to extract gold and silver rather than the zinc and copper that makes up the bulk of the ore body. World-wide zinc and copper prices are currently low, according to Lindner, and are expected to stay that way for some time to come.

Following Lindner's presentation, chapter representatives heard reports from Department of Natural Resources fisheries managers "Duke" Andrews (North Central District fisheries supervisor), Max Johnson (Antigo Area fish manager) and Tom Thuemler (Mar-

inette Area fish manager). Andrews also introduced Mike Coshun as the new Woodruff Area fishery manager for Forest, Oneida and Vilas counties. Coshun had previously been assigned to the Lake Michigan Unit of DNR fish management.

In their presentations, the fish managers discussed various modifications they intended to propose for the general inland trout fishing regulations. Johnson noted that he is still evaluating the successes of Category 4 and 5 waters, but he did state that he thought that angler compliance with the restrictive rules was not very good. He also said that he would suggest that the Category 5 "Special Regulation" for Silent Springs in Marathon County be changed to a Category 3 or 4 (i.e., to allow use of live bait for trout fishing), because that pond had a "Handicapped Accessible" dock on it, and it was unrealistic to expect the handicapped to use just lures or flies to fish that pond.

Mike Coshun noted that the current Category 5 regulation on North Otter Creek in Forest County would have a suggested change in the "slot-size" restriction. The current "slot" of eight-to-12 inches where trout must be released would be changed to a 10-to-14 inch slot. He also noted that two of the fishery biologists in his Area suggested merging the Type 1 (10 trout/day, no size limit) and Type 2 (five trout/day, seven-inch size limit) categories into a single category that called for five trout per day with no size limit.

Tom Thuemler discussed potential changes to waters in the Marinette Area (Florence, Marinette, Oconto and Shawano counties). He said that the Type 1 category for Oconto and Shawano county waters would be scrapped, with the Type 2 category becoming the base category in those two counties. He also said that there were plans to upgrade the Type 2 categories on the North Fork Thunder River and Waupee Creek in Oconto County to Type 4, and to upgrade the Type 1 listings of Chipmunk and Patten Lake Creeks in Florence County to Type 2.

The biggest change that Thuemler said would be suggested in his area would be a further restriction on the "Special Regulation" section of the South Branch Oconto River between CTH "A" and Highway 32 in Oconto County.

Currently, that stretch is listed as "artificial only", and has creel and size limits of three trout/day, with 10 and 13 inch limits on brook trout and brown trout, respectively. Because harvest levels are still considered to be



Greg Lindner (standing) of ECCOLA addressed the July 9 meeting of the Northeast Region on the topic of mining.

too high and the fishery is still not reaching its potential, the DNR will suggest changing the regulation to allow only one trout in the daily creel, with new minimum size limits of 12 and 18 inches on brooks and browns, respectively.

Thuemler also said that the Town Springs/Mountain Creek system near Mountain in northern Oconto County would go to a Type 5 regulation that called for an eight-inch size limit and three trout/day in the creel.

The fish managers asked input from T.U. chapter representatives on proposals to have extended fishing seasons on the Upper Wolf River in Langlade County and the Peshtigo River from Highway 8 in Forest County to CTH "C" in Marinette County. After

much discussion, the chapter representatives endorsed such a plan for the Wolf River, but opposed any extended season on the Peshtigo.

The proposed extended seasons would run from October 1 (day after the general trout season closes statewide) to late October or early November, and would be strictly "catch-and-release", artificials only.

Chapter representatives gave reports on their chapter activities during spring and summer. Many chapters reported they conducted youth fishing outings or events for the elderly and handicapped, and Marinette County Chapter representative Jim Bereza reported on progress with the acquisition of land along Upper Middle Inlet Creek in Marinette County.

Changing address? Do it right!

If you're changing your address, here are the proper rules to follow in order to continue receiving communications from Trout Unlimited.

1. Send notices of address changes directly to the T.U. National office. That address is: Trout Unlimited Membership Service, 14101 Parke Long Court, Chantilly, VA 22021-1645.


2. Include your eight-digit T.U. identification number with change of address notice. It is found on the upper left hand corner of mailing labels attached to TROUT magazine, Wisconsin Trout newspaper or your chapter newsletter.

3. If you are moving to a different

city within Wisconsin and wish to be affiliated with the T.U. chapter in your area, make note of that, too, and include the three-digit chapter identification number of the new chapter into which you are transferring.

4. If you have any questions, you may call Mitch Bent at (715) 524-5886. BUT...you should not send notice of address changes to him. They will not be accepted; rather, they will be returned to the sender. All notice of address changes should go directly to T.U. National. T.U. National's Phone Number: (703) 522-0200 * FAX (703) 284-9400.

*The rustle of current
and a big fish
rising*



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Wisconsin Trout Unlin

ALDO LEOPOLD CHAPTER No report

ANTIGO CHAPTER

The chapter contributed \$500 toward purchase of a land easement to assist the DNR with its dredging project on **Jacobsen Springs** in Marathon County this summer. Also, Chapter members met with North Central District DNR fisheries supervisor "Duke" Andrews

and representatives from the **Lanlade County Sportsmen's Club** and the **Wolf River T.U. Chapter** to discuss the possibility of using the **Crystal Springs Hatchery** to raise wild brook trout from eggs taken from trout in the **East Branch Eau Claire River**.

BLACKHAWK CHAPTER No report



Central Wisconsin T.U. chapter members placing deflectors in Caves Creek.



Fly casting instructor Dick Kraus giving casting instructions at the 1994 Central Wisconsin Fly Fishing School.



Central Wisconsin Chapter T.U.'ers filling sandbags for improvements on the west branch of the White.

CENTRAL WISCONSIN REPORT

A busy summer for the chapter began with its 18th edition of its annual **Fly Fishing School** held the first weekend in June, with many positive comments made by fly fishing students. Next year's event has already been set for **June 2, 3 and 4**. Interested individuals should contact fly fishing school director **Ted Bouressa** (715-824-3781) for information.

Three workdays were held this season (June 18, July 16 and August 13). In June, chapter members did streamside brushing and removed downed trees in **Caves Creek** in **Marquette County**. The July workday focused efforts on the **West Branch of the White River** in **Waushara County**. The August work effort involved removal of blowdowns from the **main White River**, and coin-

ceded with the chapter's annual picnic. Members from as far as **Illinois** and **California** came to these chapter events.

A future work project will include a joint venture with the **Frank Hornberg Chapter** on the **Tomorrow River** near **Nelsonville**.

Central Wisconsin T.U. awarded two scholarships to University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point graduate students **Mike Sandberg** and **Rob Klumb** for the coming school year, and the chapter also furnished scholarships for some younger students to **Pine Tops Camp** and the **Central Wisconsin Environmental Center** workshop held at **Sunset Lake** in **Portage County**.

COULEE REGION CHAPTER

Chapter meetings were suspended in July and August, with the next meeting set for **Sept. 21** at **Smitty's Restaurant** in **La Crosse** at 7 p.m.

Chapter members, **John Bethke**, **Jim Natwick**, **Mark Prevost**, **Dale Sevig**, **Rolf Skogstad** and **John Wisneski** participated as teachers in a fly fishing class the chapter put on this summer through the **UW-Extension** office.

Coulee Region T.U. made a donation to the **La Crosse Public Library** of a number of books on fly fishing and

aquatic entomology in the memory of **Dr. Bob Jackson**, a former **UW-La Crosse** professor and member of the **Coulee Region Chapter**.

The chapter notes that stream fishing in the coulee region this year has been excellent, and they also express satisfaction with the stream improvement efforts done by the DNR on **Timber Coulee Creek** and by the **West Fork Sportsmen's Club of Avalanche** (**Vernon County**) on the **West Fork of the Kickapoo River**.

FOX VALLEY CHAPTER

The chapter held several workdays during the summer months on streams, and participated in the annual **October scatter-stocking of brown trout** in the **Tomorrow River** the first Saturday of **October**. **Fox Valley T.U.** also had a couple of fishing outings for kids, one

on the **Willow River** in **Waushara County** and one in conjunction with the **Appleton Parks Department "Kids Fishing Day"**.

Meetings resumed in **September** with a program on "Mining in Wisconsin."

FRANK HORNBERG CHAPTER

During summer, the **Frank Hornbergers** put in a tremendous effort on several trout habitat projects. Work is nearly complete on a **750-foot stretch of Peterson Creek**, where wingdams, rock retards and a brushmat were installed. On the **middle Tomorrow River**, chapter members reinforced existing sandbag wingdams and brush matting, with future efforts geared tow-

ard developing cover for adult trout, completing the project stretch through the **Raddatz farm** and expanding the work toward **Nelsonville**.

The chapter approved the purchase of an additional **3,000 sandbags** for future use on projects. Election of officers will be held at the **November** meeting.

GREEN BAY CHAPTER

The chapter continued work on its "Walk-Through Educational Trout Stream" display at the **Brown County Reforestation Camp**. Work projects included efforts on the **First South Branch Oconto River** in **Oconto County** and at the site of the old **Evergreen Trout Hatchery** on a tributary to the **North Branch Beaver Creek**.

In late August, another "Kids Fishing Day" was held in cooperation with

the **Green Bay Exchange Club**. About three dozen kids enrolled in the **Brown County Social Services' PALS PROGRAM** enjoyed fishing and a picnic lunch at the **Brown County Reforestation Camp**.

At the **September** meeting, beaver trapper **Jerry Giese** updated the chapter on his trapping efforts for which **Green Bay T.U.** had contracted him.

HARRY NOHR CHAPTER

The **Iowa County** area chapter put effort into two separate trout projects this summer. One involved brush removal and stream bank improvement on **Harker Creek**. The other was a cooperative effort with the **DNR** removing abandoned beaver dams on

Lee Creek.

Leadership in the chapter turned over in **July**, with new president **Joe Bodewes** replacing **Curt Prideaux**, who had served as chapter leader for many years.

KIAP-TU-WISH CHAPTER

Most of the chapter's time this summer was spent in an effort to ensure that the design of a new **294-acre industrial park** in **River Falls** incorporates standards outlined in the recently adopted **stormwater management plan**. The effort should yield a model for future development that is sensitive to the water quality of the **Kinnickinnic River** which flows through **River Falls**.

The chapter's board of directors gave the go-ahead for the development of a **water quality monitoring station** on the **Willow River** below the **Little Falls Dam**. The river's fishery has experienced a decline, and the station should provide answers to nagging questions on the effects that the dam has on the **Willow**.

The station will initially measure

United Chapter reports

stage, temperature and pH on a continuous basis. Allowances for upgrades that yield continuous dissolved oxygen

levels and provides for automatic sampling will be incorporated into the site.



Lakeshore Chapter project.

LAKESHORE CHAPTER

Lakeshore T.U. had a busy summer season. "Fun" events included a chapter fishing trip to the Oconto River near Stiles in June, and teaching a fly-tying and fishing course at the Village of St. Nazianz Recreation Department to about 60 kids.

On August 20th, the chapter put in a full day doing habitat improvement on the Mullet River in Sheboygan County. Twenty chapter members were joined by 14 Boy Scouts and their lead-

ers, and the crew created several wing dams in the river to divert stream into one channel.

October 1st saw the chapter teach fly tying to the Manitowoc County 4-H Club.

Chapter president **Jeff Preiss** invites anglers interested in learning about up-to-date fishing reports for the fall runs of trout and salmon on Lake Michigan tributaries to call him at (414) 773-2693.



Youth prize winners at Marinette County T.U. "Kids Fishing Day."



Marinette County T.U. Chapter president **Dale Lange** (with wheelbarrow) works with chapter members on **Holley's Hole** on N. Branch Beaver Creek (Marinette County).

MARINETTE COUNTY CHAPTER

During summer, the chapter was primarily occupied with completing the purchase of 64(+) acres of land along **Upper Middle Inlet Creek** near **Wausaukee** in Marinette County. Once completed, the chapter will then sell about 60 non-riparian acres of land to another interested party. The purchase and sale is done under the auspices of the Wisconsin T.U. State Council.

Work projects in which the chapter was involved included repair work on the **Holley's Hole** area of the **North Branch Beaver Creek** in southern Marinette County, stream improve-

ments on the **First South Branch Oconto River** in Oconto County and cleanup and work on a tributary to the **North Branch Beaver Creek** at the site of the former **Evergreen Trout Hatchery**.

A "Kids Fishing Day" was held in late July in Marinette, with 36 youngsters participating.

Beaver trapper **Jerry Giese** reported to the chapter that by early summer he had removed over **130 beavers** from targeted trout streams in Marinette County.

NORTHWOODS CHAPTER

In July, the chapter had a few "big doings" that needed attention. On July 20th, the chapter participated in a "farewell" luncheon for **Don Hair**, chapter member and fishery biologist for the **Nicolet National Forest** (see separate article). Don accepted a similar post with the **Flathead National Forest** in Montana to work on the recovery project for bull trout. Don was a tireless worker and a very knowledgeable person. Both the chapter and the Nicolet Forest will miss him.

On July 28th, Northwoods T.U.'ers participated in the **Vilas County Fair** by operating the T.U. Booth. They talked a lot of trout with passersby, and found major topics to be the concern over degradation of the trout fishery of the **Deerskin River** near **Eagle River** and the improved fishery in **Plum Creek** near **Sayner**.

Chapter president **Bill Sherer** will be attending the T.U. National Convention in **Bozeman, Montana**, in late September.

OCONTO RIVER WATERSHED CHAPTER

The chapter spent a summer helping out with a few DNR-sponsored work projects and participating in the **Oconto County Fair** with a fish pond. Plans are in the works to undertake a project involving installation of wing dams on the **main Oconto River**.

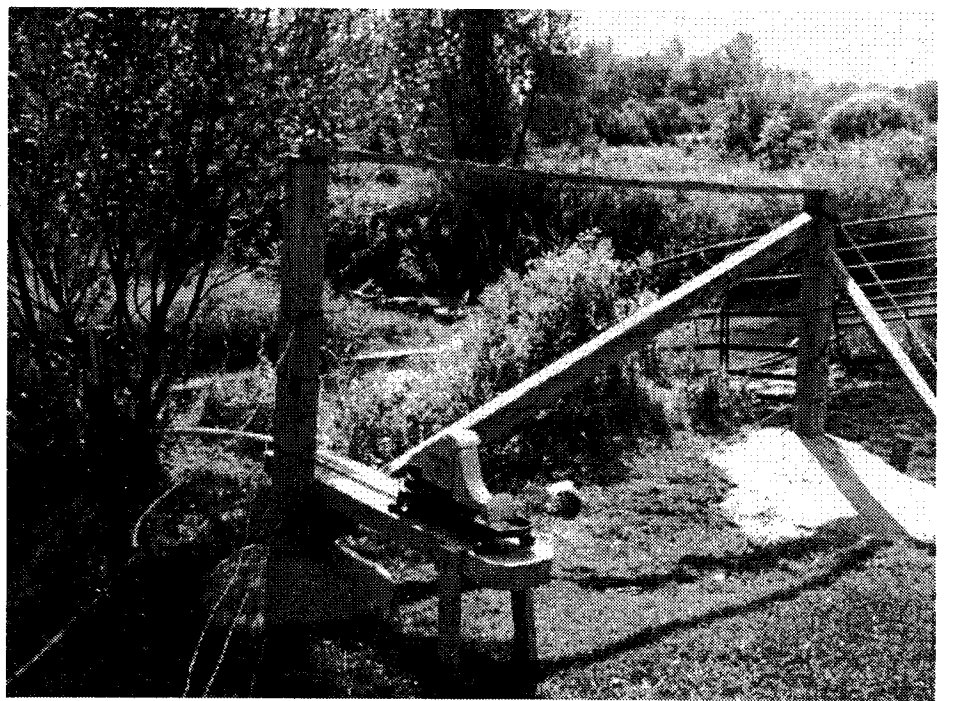
The chapter entertained **Shawano Area DNR fish manager Ross Langhurst** and **Wild Rose Fish Hatchery manager** at its "Trout Barn" near **Underhill** in Oconto County. The two resource professionals offered a few

suggestions for improvements, but stated that they were impressed with the overall operation. The two DNR specialists also suggested that there might be a possibility for the chapter to obtain some of the "wild strain" brown trout which the state is promoting for better genetic stocks of fish to be introduced to streams.

Chapter members are eagerly looking forward to the members-only "Mini-banquet" to be held **Nov. 11**.

OJIBLEAU CHAPTER

No report



Utina pasture pump installed in **Mill Creek** in **Shawano County** by **Shaw-Paca T.U.**

SHAW-PACA CHAPTER

The chapter held its annual "Kids Fishing Day" on **June 18th** at the ponds of chapter member **Floyd Pluger**. The bright sun and hot, humid weather brought out a record **288 kids** (maybe more) plus their parents and guardians. The kids caught trout and had a great time eating hamburgers and hot dogs courtesy of **Shaw-Paca T.U.**

In July, the chapter installed a **Utina pasture pump** for the farmer through whose land runs **Mill Creek**, where the chapter undertook its first project ten years ago. The farmer's cattle could not

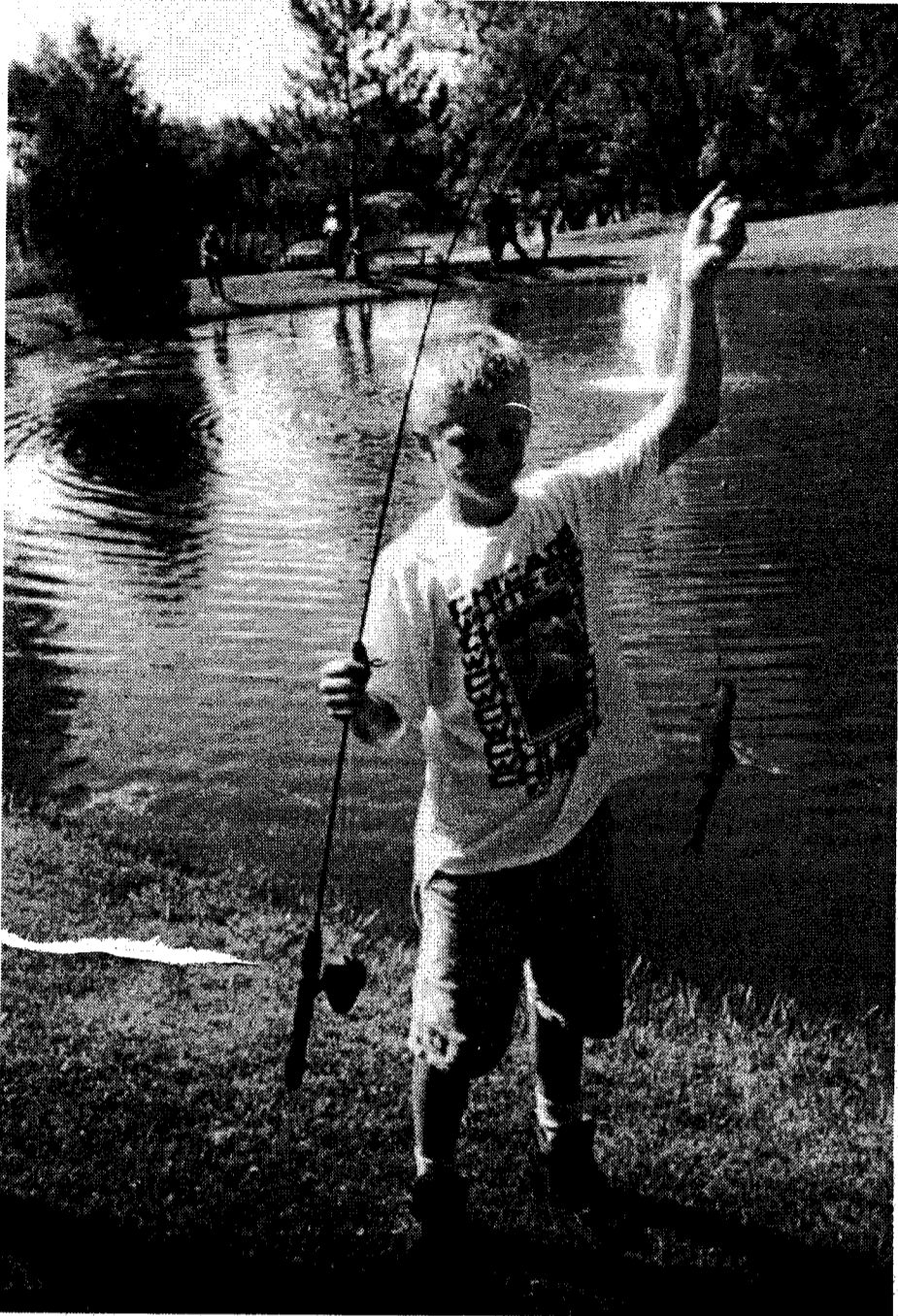
get to water, so chapter president **Jerry Weatherwax** and members set up the pump in order to keep the cows out of the stream. The chapter is also discussing future work on **Mill Creek**.

At the chapter's August meeting, beaver trapper **Cal Skalitzky** informed the membership that he had removed **58 beaver** from **42 sites** in western **Shawano County**, thus keeping most of the county's trout waters in a "beaver-free" zone. The chapter is looking into

Cont. on Page 10

✓ Chapter reports

Cont. from Page 9



Happy youngster with trout caught at Shaw-Paca T.U. "Kids Fishing Day."

ideas to sic Cal onto beaver-infested trout stream tributaries of the Little Wolf River in northern Waupaca County.

The chapter approved a donation of \$1200 to assist the DNR with its brown trout weir study on Emmons Creek south of Waupaca. This is part of a

study to analyze the unique strain of brown trout that interchanges between Emmons Creek and the Waupaca Chain O' Lakes.

Plans for the upcoming winter months include setting up the annual banquet and possibly carrying out a fly tying class.

**SOUTHEASTERN
WISCONSIN CHAPTER**
No report

**SOUTHERN WISCONSIN
CHAPTER**
No report

WILD RIVERS CHAPTER
No report

**WISCONSIN RIVER
VALLEY CHAPTER**

Summer was a productive time for the chapter. Much attention was focused on the Plover River east of Wausau and south of County "N". In early July, the chapter funded a project that improved a quarter-mile stream segment. Wide and shallow in that stretch, the stream was narrowed, boom covers were installed and canary grass was seeded on the covers. Several large boulders were also placed in the stream.

Later that month, the chapter spent a day working with the DNR fishery crew out of Antigo to install 75 half-logs into the Plover to provide in-stream cover. And chapter members continue to pursue easements on the Plover and other area trout streams.

The chapter received word from Antigo Area DNR fisheries supervisor Max Johnson that the load of material in the sediment trap in the Prairie Riv-

er below the Dells in Lincoln County is diminishing, and the chapter hopes that soon they can close down that huge undertaking and get on with other matters.

In June the chapter held its annual fishing event for handicapped citizens at the Elton Trout Ponds in Langlade County. Lots of fish were caught by participants, and everyone had a good time.

Chapter meetings begin again the first Tuesday of the month in October at the North Central Technical College starting at 7 p.m.

The chapter also proudly noted that one of its longtime members and environmental conscience, Gordon King, participated in the re-enactment of the parachute drop into Normandy in the 50th anniversary commemoration of D-Day. King served in the 101st Airborne Division during World War II, and was



Wisconsin River Valley T.U.'ers install half-logs into the Plover River.



Boom covers and large boulders installed in the Plover River below Birnamwood Road in Marathon County courtesy of Wisconsin River Valley T.U.

among those many paratroopers who entered France via the sky to set the

stage for that famous invasion of Europe by Allied forces.

WOLF RIVER CHAPTER

The chapter held its annual fall scatter stocking of brown trout in the Wolf River on September 17th. The chap-

ter's annual Conservation Banquet is set for Saturday, October 8th, at Buetner's Wild Wolf Inn.



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The 1994 trout fishing season is now history. We've all had many special moments on our favorite stream this year, moments that we'll store away in our memory bank for comfort on a cold, snowy night this winter.

And perhaps some of those memories will come from fishing waters that have been bettered because of the "Friends of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited" program.

The "Friends" program has been a smashing success. Wisconsin T.U. has invested wisely in cold water resource conservation via the "Friends" program, as the list of "Friends"-funded projects shows.

But Wisconsin T.U. has so much more to do. So many more waters to protect, like the Kinnickinnic and Wolf rivers and Black Earth Creek. And so much more research to do.

Your support as a "Friend of Wisconsin T.U." will assist the State Council in its effort to better the cold-water resources of Wisconsin. Annual donations of \$100 or more go into a special fund to be used by the State Council solely for trout habitat improvement, research and education.

Besides the satisfaction of contributing directly to the betterment of the trout fishery in our state, donors will receive a "Friends" lapel pin, a Certificate of Appreciation and listing with other "Friends" in four consecutive issues of Wisconsin Trout, the official publication of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited.

Use the application form shown here to join the "Friends" program today. Your contribution today will make for a brighter trout fishery in our state tomorrow!

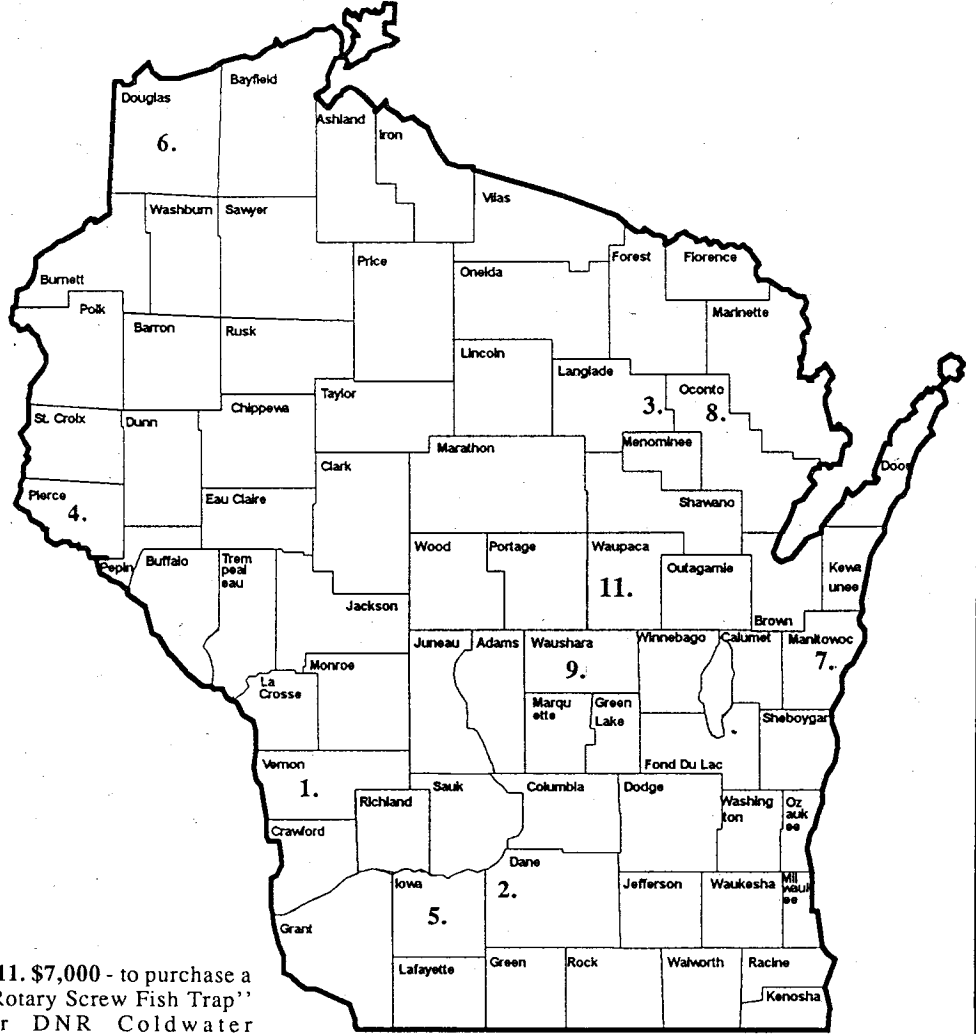
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 - Jon P. Christiansen, Mequon, WI
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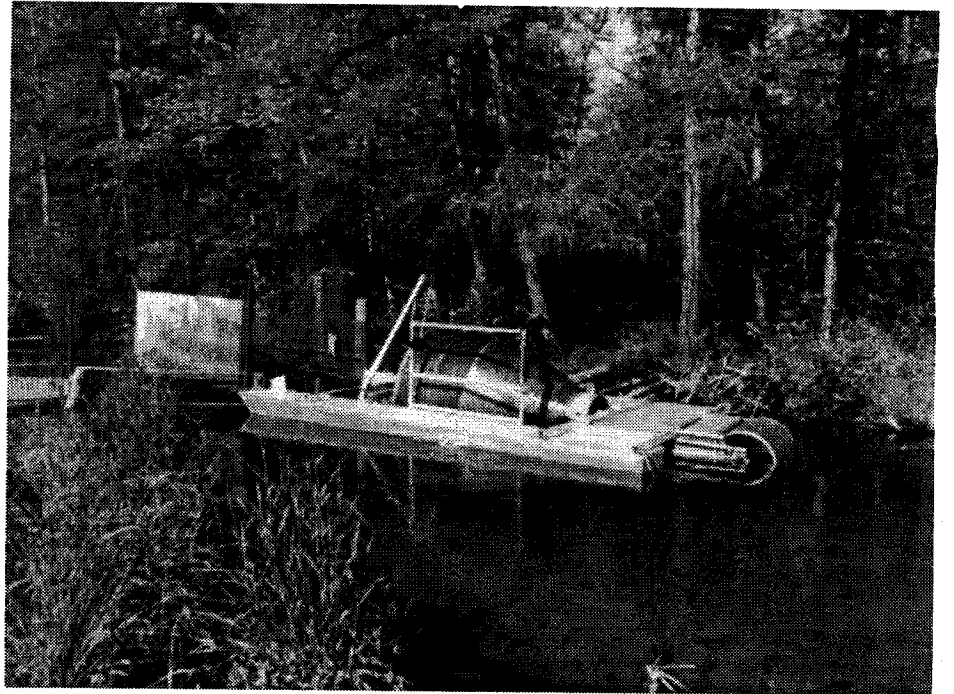
- Webb Kennedy, Mequon, WI
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- Fred Young, Roscoe, IL
- Robert Zimmerman, Green Bay, WI

List of Projects funded via the "Friends of Wisconsin T.U." Program

1. \$4,000 - for rip-rapping and structural improvements on the West Fork Kickapoo River (Vernon Co.)
2. \$1,500 - for placement of LUNKER structures and bank stabilization in Black Earth Creek (Dane Co.)
3. \$1,000 - for hydraulic dredging of Saul Spring Pond (Langlade Co.)
4. \$750 - for purchase of special thermometers to monitor stormwater runoff into the Kinnickinnic River (Pierce Co.)
5. \$2,000 - for re-routing and stabilizing Brewery Creek (Iowa Co.)
6. \$75 - for purchase of "catch-and-release" signs for the Bois Brule River (Douglas Co.)
7. \$2,500 - for renovation of trout rearing facilities in Lincoln Park (City of Manitowoc)
8. \$500 - for bank stabilization and structural improvement on the North Fork Thunder River (Oconto Co.)
9. \$1,000 - for land acquisition along the White River (Waushara Co.)
10. \$1,000 - to assist with acquisition of 64(+) acres of land along Upper Middle Inlet Creek (Marinette County)
11. \$7,000 - to purchase a "Rotary Screw Fish Trap" for DNR Coldwater research



11. \$7,000 - to purchase a "Rotary Screw Fish Trap" for DNR Coldwater research



"Rotary Screw Fish Trap" was bought for the Wisconsin DNR Coldwater Research team with help from "Friends of Wisconsin T.U."

Where do I find it? Dept.

Need to find a water quality monitoring test kit? Or aquatic sampling nets, water temperature monitoring devices, and environmental education materials? Contact the following companies for a catalog:

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Ben Meadows Company, 3589 Broad Street, Atlanta, GA 30341; or call 1-800-241-6401; FAX: 1-800-628-2068.

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Wisconsin Trout Stream

The state of Wisconsin has been truly blessed with a wide abundance of fine coldwater trout streams ranging in size from tiny rivulets to broad, burly rivers.

Over the years, many have achieved a level of fame and notoriety. Rivers like the Pine, Popple, Peshtigo and Pike of Northeastern Wisconsin; the Prairie of Lincoln and Langlade counties; the Kinnickinnic in western Wisconsin; Sawyer County's Namekagon; the two White Rivers (Bayfield and Waushara counties); and Black Earth Creek in Dane County are common names to Midwest trout anglers.

And certain rivers like Langlade County's mighty Wolf River sit high atop the pedestal of recognition and affection for those who pursue trout amidst beauty and splendor.

But one Wisconsin river stands above all others in history, acclaim, attention and TLC (tender loving care). It's a river whose status can only be described as "legendary" or "exalted".

That river is the famous Bois Brule River in northwestern Wisconsin's Douglas County.

The Bois Brule ("Brule" for short) travels about 47 miles in a south-to-north fashion through the eastern part of Douglas County before it empties into Lake Superior. Originating in - and flowing through - a large conifer bog in its southerly reaches, the Brule drains a watershed of approximately 130 square miles. It works its way from the conifer bog through a stretch known as "the pine barrens" and on past a region dominated by red clay soils, the latter of which adds to high runoff and associated turbidity and siltation during rainy periods.

The Brule became part of Wisconsin's early history when explorers used it as a water route between the Great Lakes and the Mississippi River prior to settlement of that area. Those who

traversed the Brule's watershed soon became familiar with its splendid brook trout fishery, which consisted of both a resident and migratory (a.k.a. "coaster") population.

The Brule's fishery first became known quite innocuously around the year 1804 when an early explorer penned in his journal that he'd gillnetted eight unidentified fish near the river's mouth. As other explorers began to probe the innards of the Brule's course, they came upon the magnificent brook trout fishery that existed there.

It was not until around 1830, though, that the Brule's brook trout fishery really became pronounced, as it appeared that the presence of nearly 100 beaver dams along its course played havoc with the fishery then just as beaver dams do with our present day coldwater fisheries.

Most accounts of excellent trout fishing occurred after 1830 once the beaver had been trapped and the dams removed.

The excellence of that fishery was soon described in many newspapers and sporting publications. And the level of harvest on these fish would make practitioners of today's "catch-and-release" trout angling physically ill.

The Superior Chronicle noted in an 1862 edition that "...a lot of trout weighing from four to five pounds each were caught..." by anglers on an excursion to the Bois Brule.

During the 1870's, one Alexander McDougal reportedly caught bushels of brook trout through the ice from the Cedar Island spring ponds and shipped them by dogsled to the Bayfield trail, and then by horse to markets in Duluth, Minnesota.

"Civilization" eventually caught up to the Brule. Increased access to the river allowed more and more angling exploitation of the resource. Logging and log drives changed the river's

course and streamside characteristics. Human habitation altered the river's mien, and the creation of a large fish hatchery at Cedar Island effectively blocked an interconnected series of spring ponds which were the main spawning sites for the river's brook trout.

The state of Wisconsin even got into the act of alteration by building a fish hatchery on the Little Brule River, a tributary to the main Brule, in 1928 to meet statewide demands for salmonid production.

Yet the beauty and mystique of the Bois Brule remained. Its aura and magnificence gave cause to the 1905 Wisconsin Legislature to pass a law expressly forbidding the construction of any dam on the river. Given that the

cause of "environmentalism" wasn't even yet in an embryonic form, that legislative coup was considered miraculous.

And it showed just how much the Bois Brule was valued.

Over the years, the river's fame and attraction grew. United States presidents like Calvin Coolidge and Dwight Eisenhower were drawn to the Brule to fish its waters and relax by its banks.

Recognizing what a unique ecosystem the Bois Brule was, the state of Wisconsin began in 1940 an exhausting interdisciplinary study on the river and its watershed. The intent of the work was to evaluate the physical, biological and chemical characteristics of the watershed so that an efficient and well-



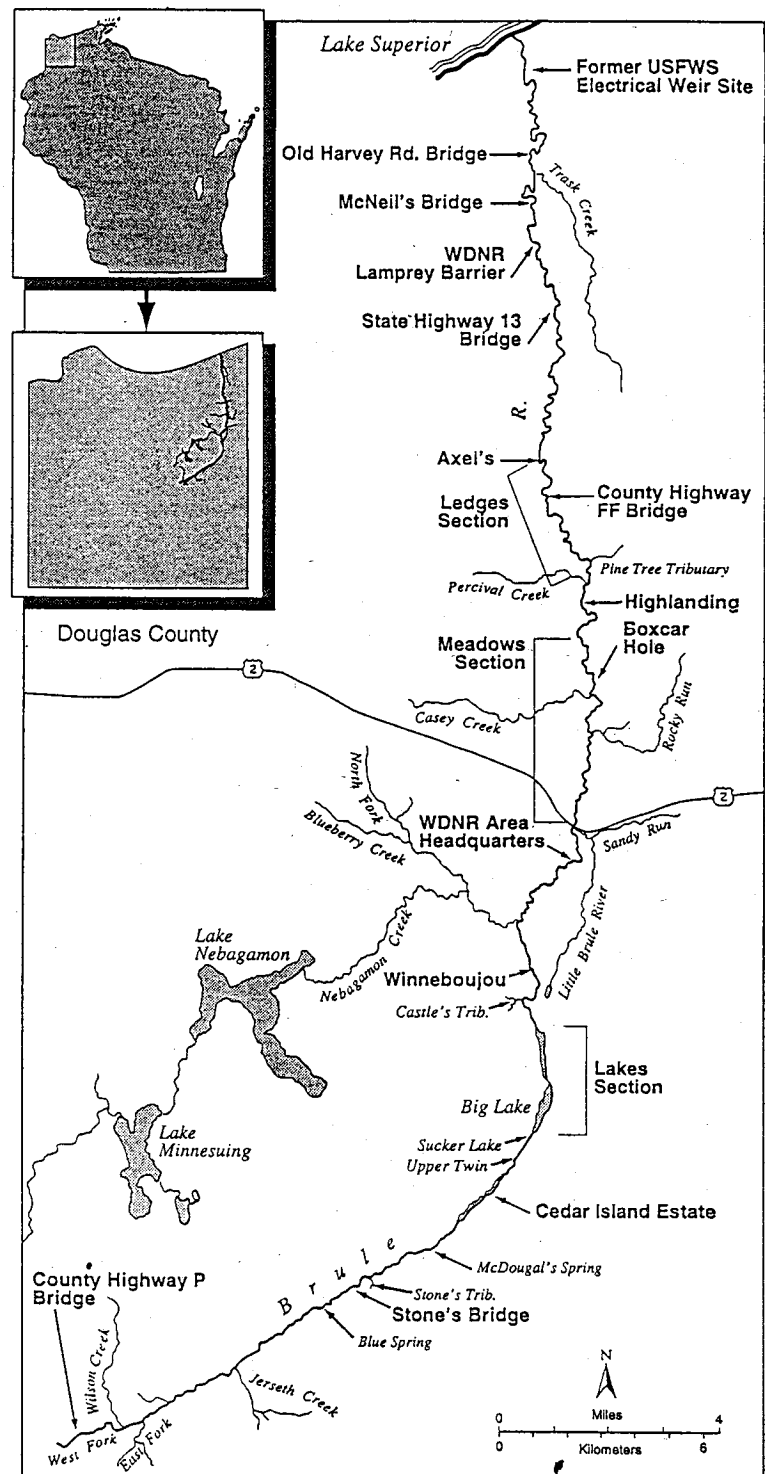
Brule River at Ranger Station.



Placid upper end.



Below Hwy. 2.



Profile: the Bois Brule River

balanced management plan could be developed by the Wisconsin Conservation Department (precursor to the Department of Natural Resources).

From that study came recommendations for stocking of trout, public acquisition of the Cedar Island spring ponds, an extended autumn fishing season on the lower river (downstream from U.S. Highway 2), initiation of creel and trout population surveys and several riparian and erosion control measures.

The fishery of the Bois Brule has always been one of its strongest attractions. That fish community has undergone many changes over the years, some of it due to overharvest by man and other changes due to man's incessant desire to "experiment" with introduction of different species.

As noted earlier, brook trout was the indigenous salmonid species in the Bois Brule. Glowing reports in the media between 1830-1900 of "sports" catching brookies ranging to five pounds and up encouraged even more anglers to visit the area, and the sport angling took its toll.

Physical alterations also hurt the brook trout, especially the "coaster" component. "Splash dams" made by logging companies to facilitate movement of logs down the river during the period of virgin white pine cutting blocked the migratory movements of these huge brook trout and, along with excessive angling, led to the demise of that unique brook trout strain in the Bois Brule.

And the alteration of the prime brook trout spawning grounds around the Cedar Island area hurt both resident and migratory fish.

Steelhead (rainbow trout) were first introduced to the Brule in 1892, and stocking of varieties of Pacific Coast rainbow trout strains continued on and off through 1981. This species has become the most abundant salmonid in the river system. They inhabit the river as juveniles, but then drop down into Lake Superior after no more than three summers in the River.

About 15 major spawning areas for steelhead have been identified in riffle areas between Stone's Bridge and Winneboujou in the upper river. Spawning in the lower river is considered to be even more significant, but it has been more difficult to document due to higher water and turbidity.

The Brule has been a mecca for steelhead anglers for many years, but evidence gathered by the early 1980's suggested that the steelhead population had dropped appreciably. Most telling perhaps was information that the total estimated steelhead harvest in 1978-79 of about 7,000 fish was rough-

ly even with the Estimate of the entire steelhead run in recent years.

Causes of the decline were not specifically known, but overharvest by anglers in both the river and in Lake Superior was suspected.

More restrictive creel and size limits have been set for sport angling of steelhead, but it will take several years before the effectiveness of the new rules may be ascertained. Even then, outside environmental factors such as flooding will lead to annual variations in angling quality regardless of best management practices.

Brown Trout were introduced into the Brule around 1920, though some browns may have become established already in the river due to stocking elsewhere in the Lake Superior basin. A self-sustaining population developed early on, and now they are common throughout the river system.

Like the original brook trout population of the Bois Brule, the brown trout population has a dual component: a resident population in the upper river and an anadromous population that enters the river from Lake Superior during July through October. The anadromous browns provide a trophy fishery, but they've been less popular than steelhead because they are harder to catch.

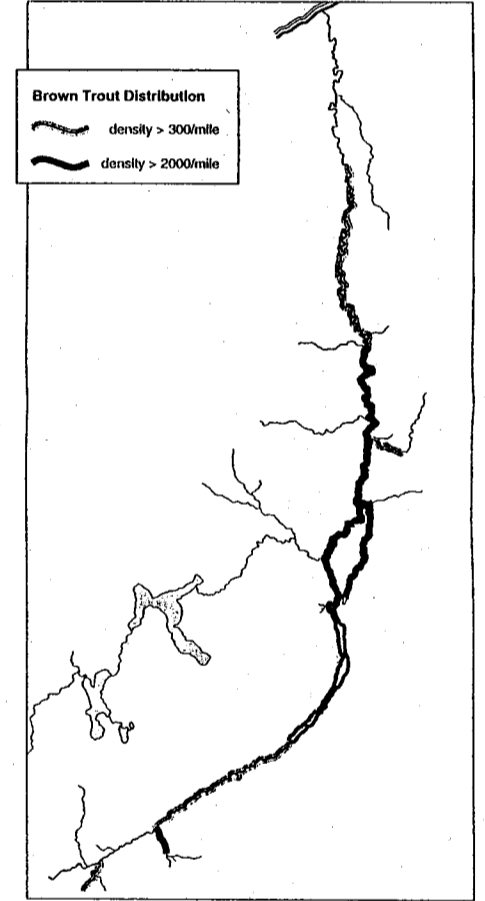
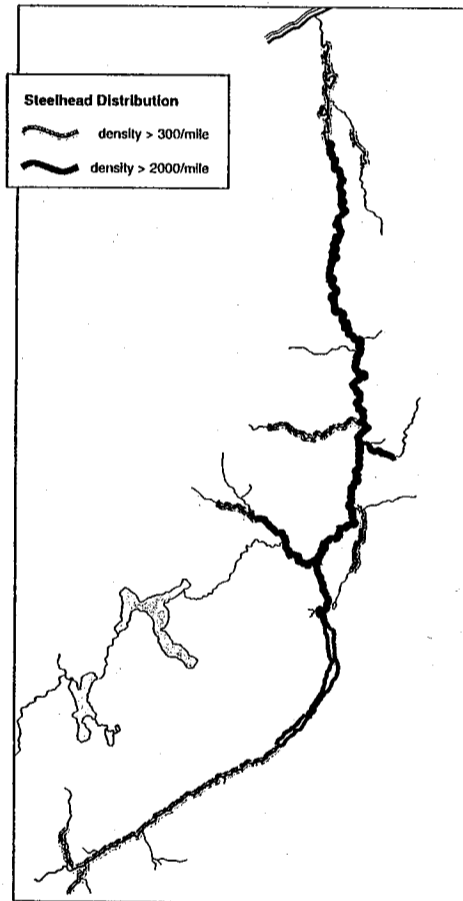
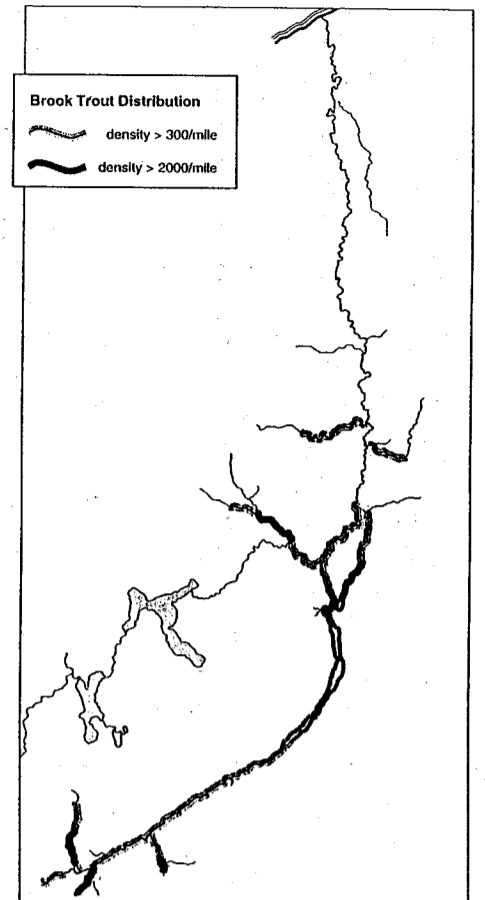
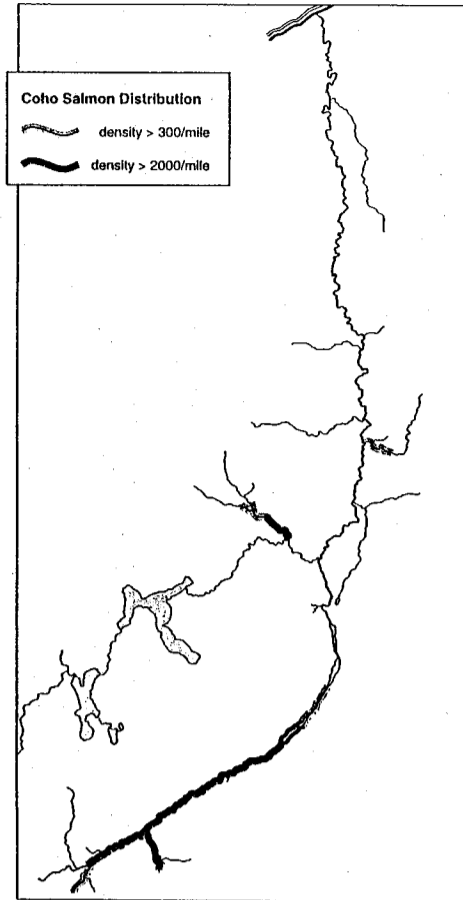
Salmon established themselves in the Brule's system during the 1970's via fish stocked by the Province of Ontario. Coho salmon maintained a viable but variable population beginning in 1973, with three-year cycles of abundance. Chinooks developed more slowly than did cohos, with small numbers being found in the main Brule and its tributaries Blueberry and Nebagam creeks in the late 1970's and early 1980's. After smolting, chinooks spend four years in Lake Superior before returning to the river to spawn.

Pink salmon also have been found in the Brule, but not in any appreciable numbers since 1979. Their potential for establishment appears to be limited, according to DNR fishery biologists.

Because the Bois Brule has been so valued, both for its fishery and its aesthetic qualities, many special management and protection efforts have been implemented over the years to maintain its integrity.

Control of sea lampreys was begun in the mid-1950's in order to get rid of this exotic scourge. Many different methods were used over the years to attack the sea lamprey problem. Since 1986, a mechanical barrier used in conjunction with a chemical treatment only below the barrier has been the preferred treatment method.

Preservation efforts have been the mainstay of protecting the Brule. The



Brule River State Forest (BRSF) was established in 1907 through a 4,320-acre gift of land from Frederick Weyerhaeuser. In 1959, the BRSF boundaries were extended to include the entire Bois Brule River corridor, and today about 40,000 acres of land (80 percent of the total acreage goal for the BRSF) is under state ownership within the project boundaries.

Efforts by the state at outright fee title acquisition of land have been complemented by excellent stewardship practiced by private riparian landowners over the years. And groups like Brule River Preservation, Inc., and The Nature Conservancy have worked with landowners to set up deed restrictions on private lands along the Brule to restrict use and development of those lands in perpetuity.

The Bois Brule was the site of controversy in the late 1900's and early 1980's when hosts of people practiced inner-tubing down the river. The associated littering and disturbance resulting from those doing the tubing caused the state Legislature to outlaw tubing on the Bois Brule in 1981.

The "art" of trout stream habitat improvement got underway in the 1930's, and the Bois Brule was the site

of many WPA (Works Progress Administration) and CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps) projects such as installation of wing-dams and bank covers, brushing and brush handle installation and removal of large downed trees.

The latter work was later determined to be a poor idea, and current plans call for replacing the large woody debris (LWD) that has been removed in the past.

Since the 1960's, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has expended much time and effort within the Bois Brule watershed to improve and restore its character.

Riparian brushing and brush bundle installation on inside bends of some tributary streams choked with tag alders has been an on-going task, and control of beaver and removal of their dams has also been a priority. A beaver subsidy program in 1986-1988 included the Brule's watershed, and trappers with the Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), an arm of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, have worked under direction of the DNR to remove beaver from the Bois Brule watershed.

Erosion control has also been a



Downstream from CTH "F".

✓Bois Brule River

Cont. from Page 13

major concern on the Brule, especially in the area where the river runs through heavy clay soils. Several projects were tried over the years to control erosion, with varying degrees of success. State forest management goals now call for specialized timber management in steeply-sloped red clay areas, with the long-range objective of returning the area to a mixed-conifer forest so as to reduce bank erosion and slippage. It will take decades, though, to assess the results of this program.

Fishery regulation

Over time, angling restrictions on the Bois Brule have been tightened in order to protect existing populations of salmonids against increased human exploitation.

In 1989, new regulations were approved for the entire open season. They called for: 1) a reduced daily bag of five salmonids, with only one rainbow (steelhead) larger than 12 inches and only two brown trout larger than 15 inches; 2) a 10-inch minimum size limit on browns, eight inches on brook trout and 12 inches on salmon.

Concern for the steelhead fishery on the Brule and Lake Superior continued, though, and further restrictions on harvest of that species came into place. In 1990, the daily limit on Lake Superior proper was reduced to one fish with a 28-inch minimum size limit. In 1993, the minimum size limit on steelhead taken from the Bois Brule and other Lake Superior tributaries was increased to 26 inches in order to give the fish a chance to spawn.

Aiding these rules has been increased levels of voluntary "catch-and-release" fishing being practiced by a growing legion of anglers, especially in the upper river segment (south of U.S. Highway 2). Groups like Brule Preservation, Inc., the Brule River's Sportsmen's Club and the Wisconsin Council of Trout Unlimited have joined forces to place signs along the

course of the upper river to encourage "catch-and-release" fishing in order to preserve the quality of both the steelhead fishery and other salmonid fishery components.

Regulation changes may have had an impact on the overall fishery of the Bois Brule since the regulatory overhaul in 1989. For brook trout, there appeared to be an initial boost to the trout population with reduced bag limits and increased minimum size limits, but a decline in that fishery component has been perceived by anglers the past two years. There is some suspicion that tight restrictions on Brule River steelhead harvest resulted in a diversion of angler interest toward brook trout.

Brown trout seem to be in a bit of a decline, with concerns that the increased pressure by fly anglers during the *Hexagenia* mayfly hatch and heavy harvest by bait anglers in spring in the so-called "lakes area" of the Brule are contributing to a population decline.

Rainbow trout, on the other hand, appear to be doing well. There are increased reports of numbers of large (12-15 inch) resident-appearing rainbow trout being caught regularly, and there is a feeling that the strict creel and size limits are affording good protection to that species.

It has been said, "What is past is prologue." And that saying applies to Wisconsin's Bois Brule river. This heralded watershed will continue to demand and receive special focus by fisheries researchers and managers in order to preserve and enhance it. Efforts of the future will include:

1. Continued emphasis on riparian protection by land acquisition and by working with landowners and conservation groups to establish deed restrictions on private lands within the BRSF corridor to protect the streamcourse.

2. Focusing on in-stream habitat maintenance and enhancement through beaver control and dam removal, dredging of spring ponds to increase

Table 2. Mean physical and chemical characteristics of the lower Brule River¹, the upper Brule River², and 14 tributaries for which reliable fish distribution information exists (compiled from data collected by the authors, from Fisheries Management files (Brule Area and Superior Offices, or from Sather and Johannes 1973; n/a means no data available).

Mainstem Section Or Tributary	Mean Width (ft)	Mean Depth (inches)	Estimated Normal Discharge (ft ³ /s)	Mean Gradient (ft/mile)	pH	MPA (ppm)	Specific Conductance @ 77° F (umhos)	Approximate Maximum Summer Water Temperature (°F)
Lower River	66	30	221	13	7.7	66	119	high 70's
Upper River ³	54	30	97	6	7.5	45	106	high 60's
Trask Creek	7	6	2	55	7.6	123	237	at least mid 70's
Casey Creek	10	7	1	40	7.0	49	106	at least mid 70's
Percival Creek	4	2	<0.5	111	7.3	100	213	n/a
Pine Tree tributary	3	4	<0.5	264	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rocky Run	10	7	2	90	7.5	105	142	low 60's
Sandy Run	7	6	7	47	7.4	99	161	low 60's
Little Brule River	17	10	12	20	7.3	66	91	mid 60's
Nebagamon Creek	21	10	20	20	7.1	41	91	high 70's
Minnesaug Creek	20	10	3	2	7.3	45	98	at least high 70's
Blueberry Creek	11	10	5	29	6.4	26	70	low 70's
Jerseth Creek	5	4	1	71	7.2	43	84	high 50's
Wilson Creek	4	5	2	50	7.0	36	80	mid 60's
West Fork	15	6	2	5	7.3	66	134	low 70's
East Fork	15	14	4	23	7.3	42	83	high 50's

¹ Lower river refers to the stretch of river from U. S. Highway 2 north to Lake Superior

² Upper river refers to the stretch of river from U. S. Highway 2 south to the confluence of the East and West forks

³ excluding Big Lake

brook trout spawning potential and addition of LWD to provide trout cover and compensate for wood removed since the 1930's. In-stream structures that prove their worth will be refurbished. Public acquisition of any part of the Cedar Island spring ponds - when and if they become available - will be a high priority so as to restore this former major brook trout spawning area for wild brook trout recruitment.

3. Continuing the trend toward increasingly restrictive angling regulations with a review of the new inland trout fishing rules as they pertain to the Bois Brule and the impact they've had on the resource.

4. Further monitoring of the stream biota to test for impacts that exotic species have on native species.

5. Continuing to focus on research, as the public has the right to expect a "state-of-the-art" management program on this irreplaceable resource.

Indeed, the Bois Brule represents a "crown jewel" among Wisconsin's many waters. It has been designated an **Outstanding Resource Water** under state anti-degradation efforts. It has been researched extensively and continues to be the site of aquatic studies. It has had its fishery rules changed many times in attempts to better protect the resource.

And it will always hold a special place in the hearts and minds of Wisconsin's trout angling community, not to mention those in the entire Midwest. It is indeed a mecca for trout anglers, and certainly all who call themselves "trout anglers" deserve to visit its waters.

When and if you do, tread lightly and take special care to use the Bois Brule well. For it is a resource that belongs not just to the present generation, but to those that will follow us.

Table 3. Angling pressure, catch, and harvest statistics for upper and lower sections of the Bois Brule River since 1973¹ (n/a = data not available or insufficient to provide meaningful comparisons). Steelhead throughout the river system and brown trout from the lower river are reported in two categories; the ≥ 13 " categories are comprised primarily of anadromous adults, whereas the < 13 " categories are primarily stream-resident or juvenile anadromous forms. This distinction is invalid for upper river brown trout (reported in the "all brown trout" category only).

Category	Lower River					Upper River				
	1973	1978-79	1984	1986	1990	1973	1978-79	1984	1986	1992
Angling Pressure										
Trips per Mile	n/a	1,440	1,183	887	739	n/a	284	436	297	310
Hours per Mile	n/a	5,314	4,365	3,274	2,726	n/a	1,354	2,081	1,414	1,482
Total Hours	n/a	132,847	109,122	81,856	68,140	n/a	17,599	27,054	20,108	19,271
Catch per Hour										
Brook Trout	n/a	n/a	0.007	0.009	0.002	n/a	n/a	0.208	0.296	0.650
Steelhead (≥ 13 ")	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.030	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.004	0.018
Steelhead (< 13 ")	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.037	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.195	0.190
Steelhead (all)	n/a	n/a	0.098	0.067	0.100	n/a	n/a	0.097	0.199	0.208
Brown Trout (≥ 13 ")	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.007	n/a	--	--	--	--	--
Brown Trout (< 13 ")	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.013	n/a	--	--	--	--	--
Brown Trout (all)	n/a	n/a	0.015	0.020	0.004	n/a	n/a	0.057	0.067	0.149
Pacific Salmon	n/a	n/a	0.001	0.005	0.002	n/a	n/a	0.002	0.007	0.021
All Species	n/a	n/a	0.121	0.101	0.108	n/a	n/a	0.364	0.568	1.028
Harvest per Hour										
Brook Trout	n/a	n/a	0.004	0.007	0.002	n/a	n/a	0.105	0.095	0.059
Steelhead (≥ 13 ")	n/a	0.056	0.033	0.019	n/a	n/a	0.014	0.001	0.001	0.006
Steelhead (< 13 ")	n/a	0.027	0.002	0.007	n/a	n/a	0.026	0.028	0.021	0.001
Steelhead (all)	n/a	0.083	0.035	0.026	0.032	n/a	0.040	0.029	0.022	0.007
Brown Trout (≥ 13 ")	n/a	0.003	0.002	0.004	n/a	--	--	--	--	--
Brown Trout (< 13 ")	n/a	0.004	0.008	0.003	n/a	--	--	--	--	--
Brown Trout (all)	n/a	0.007	0.010	0.007	0.001	n/a	0.043	0.032	0.037	0.022
Pacific Salmon	n/a	n/a	0.001	0.005	0.002	n/a	n/a	0	0.005	0.002
All Species	n/a	n/a	0.050	0.045	0.037	n/a	n/a	0.166	0.159	0.090
Harvest per Mile										
Brook Trout	1.8	n/a	15.5	21.4	4.8	73.6	n/a	218.7	147.2	88.2
Steelhead (≥ 13 ")	189.0	299.6	143.5	63.8	n/a	4.1	19.5	2.0	1.4	8.8
Steelhead (< 13 ")	89.0	141.0	10.0	22.7	n/a	148.8	34.5	58.8	32.6	0.8
Steelhead (all)	278.0	440.6	153.5	86.5	86.4	152.9	54.0	60.8	34.0	9.6
Brown Trout (≥ 13 ")	16.5	17.7	9.7	14.7	n/a	--	--	--	--	--
Brown Trout (< 13 ")	8.4	19.7	36.6	9.4	n/a	--	--	--	--	--
Brown Trout (all)	24.9	37.4	46.3	24.1	4.1	66.9	58.6	66.1	56.8	33.2
Pacific Salmon	4.2	n/a	4.2	17.7	4.6	0	n/a	0	7.2	2.3
All Species	308.9	n/a	219.5	149.7	99.9	293.4	n/a	345.6	245.2	133.3

¹ See section on regulations for daily bag and size limits in effect during each survey year; sampling periods for the surveys included the entire regular open seasons on the upper river in 1973, 1984, 1986, and 1992, and the regular open seasons plus extended early and late seasons on the lower river in 1973, 1984, 1986; in 1990 the survey period on the lower river coincided with the spring and autumn anadromous salmonid runs and was not extended through the summer; also sampled was the time interval 1 July 1978 - 30 June 1979 during the regular and extended seasons on the upper and lower sections of river.

DNR Fishery Personnel Profile: Bob DuBois

Anglers everywhere depend upon their local and area fishery managers to make decisions or proposals for the betterment of fisheries and those who use them. Those decisions are based upon data that managers glean through accepted sampling techniques.

Much of the information that comes to fish managers to assist them in their field management efforts comes from work done by fisheries personnel whose work is strictly that of gathering biological and aquatic data on resources. From these researchers comes the springboard of information upon which management alternatives are used.

One such person who has spent most of his career doing research on fisheries is **Bob DuBois**, the subject of this issue's DNR Profile.

The 40-year old DuBois is a native of Brighton, Massachusetts. A 1971 graduate of Weston Senior High School in Weston, Massachusetts, Bob attended Tompkins-Cortland Community College in Dryden, New York, where he received an Associate in Science Degree in 1979. In 1981, DuBois received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Fishery Science from Cornell University in Ithaca, New York.

Bob held several positions in fishery research prior to his coming to Wisconsin, working in such diverse places as the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution of Massachusetts, the New York Cooperative Fishery Research Unit at Cornell University and the Radiation

Management Corporation in Philadelphia.

In August of 1982, he hooked up with the Wisconsin Cooperative Fishery Research Unit of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Less than a year later, he assumed his present position, that being a Fishery Research Scientist with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources at the **Brule Area Headquarters** in Douglas County.

And that assignment presented him with a pleasantly awesome task, that being to unlock the secrets of Wisconsin's famed **Bois Brule River**.

"Fish researchers for Wisconsin's DNR generally have statewide responsibilities for providing needed information to managers," DuBois said. "My situation is unique in that I was assigned to conduct research on just one river system for 10 years (1984-1994), that being the Bois Brule."

During the past 10 years, DuBois has focused efforts on smolt sampling on four anadromous species, juvenile and resident population estimates, creel surveys, habitat evaluation and effects of lampricide treatment (TFM) on salmonids and their invertebrate food sources.

"I'm in an interim period of finishing the write-ups on work done over the last decade while planning new initiatives that will be statewide in scope, not system-specific," Bob noted. "My next major project will be to investigate

the role of large woody debris (LWD) in streams relative to fish communities (not just salmonids) and aquatic arthropods."

During this period, DuBois is also doing some small-scale research projects, one of which may shed some interesting light on the impacts of hooking mortality.

"I'm doing a project investigation on the hooking mortality of salmonids caught on spinning lures," DuBois said. "Although lots of hooking mortality studies have been done on trout, most studies involved use larger fish (eight inches or longer), and most were done on hatchery fish, which may strike a lure less aggressively than its wild counterpart in the stream."

"My concern," he continued, "has been the hundreds of small wild salmonids - those less than eight inches - released by spinner anglers annually in the Brule."

DuBois noted that preliminary indications suggest that hooking mortality is low (3-4 percent) after 72 hours, but that the incidence of eye damage is moderate (13-14 percent). A logical sequel, he says, will be to determine if use of **single-hook spinners** (instead of treble-hook spinners) will substantially reduce the risk of eye damage to salmonids.

DuBois' responsibilities are unique in that his only focus is to provide information to **other managers** so that they may better manage the resources in their jurisdiction. He has no direct management responsibility on the Bois Brule, but he does have some opinions and feelings as to problems that special resource faces.

"I could go on at length over any number of problems that face the Bois Brule," Bob stated, "but, to keep it simple, the primary threat to the salmonid resources of the river is that of over-exploitation by anglers. Other issues such as introduction of exotic species, maintenance of water quality and habitat bear watching, but overharvest by anglers is the thing which needs the most attention."

Special regulations are often a method of protection for a fishery against overharvest, and DuBois talked about the "special regs" on Wisconsin's most famous river.

"The Bois Brule has had a new set of special regulations in effect for angling since 1989," he said. "Those include such things as a one-fish-per-day, 26-inch size limit, on steelhead; a five-fish total bag with a limit of only two browns greater than 15 inches, a



Bob DuBois

10-inch minimum size limit on browns, 12 inches on salmon and eight inches on brook trout."

"So far," he noted, "it has not been possible to definitively attribute any salmonid population responses to the regulation changes, but investigations are still ongoing through the efforts of Western Lake Superior fish manager **Dennis Pratt**."

Working Wisconsin's famed Bois Brule is a demanding challenge. When not knee-deep in the river of the data he produces, DuBois takes pleasure in diverse pursuits that include fishing (naturally!), chess, aquatic entomology, reading, writing and education. His family includes his wife Linda, daughters Sarah and Danielle and son Christian.

As will be noted in the accompanying article on the Bois Brule, much has been learned over the past decade about this legendary river. The lessons learned and the data collected will help shape the future of the fishery of not only the Bois Brule but of many other rivers.

Research may not be the most glamorous game in the fisheries field. One can't get the feel of success that one does from installing LUNKER structures in a stream or fencing a river section and then watching the new habitat bring about increased trout populations.

But without the research by the likes of **Bob DuBois**, many of the methods of stream improvement and fish management which we take for granted nowadays would never come about.

Thus we thank DuBois and his team of researchers for their past, present and continued investigations into the intricacies of our coldwater aquatic systems. From their work comes the progressive management tools of tomorrow.



DNR water quality staff members heard citizen input June 1 in Crivitz on "Outstanding Resource Waters."

Meetings held on "Outstanding Resource Waters"

In late May and early June, three meetings were held in northern Wisconsin towns (Rhineland, Crivitz and Rice Lake) to inform the public as to the status of studies being done on a review of the criteria for listing state waters as "Outstanding Resource Waters" under the Department of Natural Resources' "antidegradation" rules NR 102 and NR 207.

The study is being done as per an order from the Natural Resources Board in October, 1992, to direct DNR staff to develop specific analysis of the "potential legal and socio-economic impact implications, including a statement of intent as to activities that may be regulated, restricted or prohibited on future Outstanding Resource Waters and Exceptional Resource Waters classifications."

A number of Wisconsin waters have already been designated as "Outstanding" or "Exceptional" resource waters, such as state and nationally-designated wild and scenic rivers and

most of the state's high quality trout streams. The DNR is developing statewide criteria for determining which additional waters should receive "Outstanding" or "Exceptional" status in the future.

Recommendations from DNR staff to the Natural Resources Board must be presented by January, 1996.

The study came about due to complaints from several areas, but particularly Marinette County, which felt that there were "too many" waters listed as "Outstanding." Marinette County's board of supervisors was concerned that listing waters as "Outstanding" would put a halt to economic development plans in the county.

Environmentalists expressed concerns at these meetings that adding an additional criterion to the list of 16 existing criteria to determine if a water should be classified as "Outstanding" would deter future classifications of waters as "Outstanding".

Natural Resources Board notes

The Natural Resources Board has acted upon the following items pertaining to the coldwater resource during the past three months:

*purchased a total of 4.27 acres along the Pike River in Marinette County for the Pike Wild River program for \$68,000 (land included

improvements); and

*exchanged 50.2 acres of state land no longer needed for conservation purposes for 30.3 acres of land along the Willow Creek in Richland County to be included in the Willow Creek Fishery Area.



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Evaluation of new trout stream category regulations

by the Marinette Area
DNR Fishery Team

The new "Category" trout stream regulations have been in effect in the Marinette Area of Northeastern Wisconsin for two seasons (1992 and 1993). Because of the impact that the drought of 1988 and 1989 had on trout populations in Northeastern Wisconsin, the trout season was closed entirely in 1990 and was open to catch-and-release only fishing (artificial lures and flies only) in 1991.

Most brook trout populations have recovered from the effects of the drought. However, brown trout populations have not recovered as fast.

It is hard to separate the impacts that the drought had on the trout populations with the effects that the new trout angling regulations are having. We looked at the trout population in Upper Middle Inlet Creek (northern Marinette County), and saw that the brook trout population was at or above pre-drought levels by 1993.

What we have done in analyzing the new trout regulations is to look at stream sections for which we have population estimate data in 1993 and for some years prior to the drought (i.e., before 1988). By using these data, we should avoid any possibility of confusing impacts the drought had on trout with impacts that the new regulations are having.

We may have to wait longer to evaluate the effect the new regulations are having on brown trout, because they have not yet recovered fully from the drought impacts.

We have five streams sections in the Marinette Area for which we have data

on "Category 2" waters, i.e., five trout per day, seven-inch size limit. All five of these waters contain brook trout, while only three of them contain brown trout. Figures 2 and 3 show the change in the number of trout per acre at least seven inches or greater in the population from the pre-drought estimates to the 1993 estimates.

The number of larger brook trout increased in all of the study sections while the number of brown trout greater than seven inches increased in only one of the three sections.

The average increase in the number of brook trout seven inches or larger for the five study sections was 155 trout per acre (range of seven to 355), while the brown trout populations increased an average of eight trout per acre (range of -8 to 36).

We also had data on three sections of stream under the Category 4 regulations, which call for a three-trout daily creel limit with size limits of eight inches on brook trout and 12 on browns and rainbows. All three of those streams contained brook trout, and two had brown trout populations.

The total number of brook trout over eight inches increased in all three streams (Figure 4), however the number of brown trout 12 inches or over in each stream was lower than before the new regulations were enacted (Figure 5). The brown trout populations have probably not yet fully recovered from the impact of the drought.

On the Category 4 streams, the average increase in the number of brook trout over eight inches was 37 trout per acre (range of 19 to 66). There was an average decrease in the number of

brown trout 12 inches or greater on these Category 4 streams of 13 trout per acre (range of -3 to -23).

In summary, it appears that both the Category 2 and 4 regulations are having the desired effect on the brook trout populations in the waters sampled in the Marinette Area. The brown trout populations have not responded as readily to these new regulations. This may be due to lingering impacts of the drought on the area's brown trout population.

Additional waters will be studied in the next couple of years to determine if the brown trout populations do respond to the new regulations and if we see any further improvement in brook trout

populations.

Note: the Category 2 waters mentioned in the article include - North Branch Embarrass River (Shawano County); Waupee Creek (Oconto County); and Upper Middle Inlet Creek, K.C. Creek and North Branch Pike River (Marinette County). The Category 4 waters mentioned are: K.C. Creek below Highway 8 (Marinette County); First South Branch Oconto River below Pats Lake Road and the South Branch Oconto River upstream from Menominee County (Oconto County).

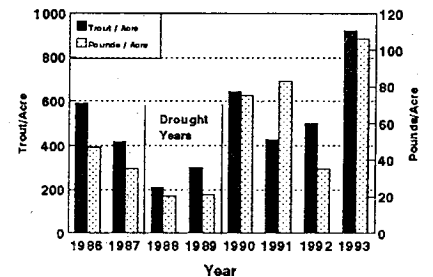


Figure 1. Brook trout population Upper Middle Inlet Creek, 1986-93.

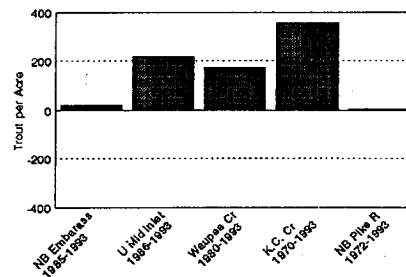


Figure 2. The change in the number of brook trout 7" or greater in Category 2 streams in the Marinette Area. Dates refer to the year sampled.

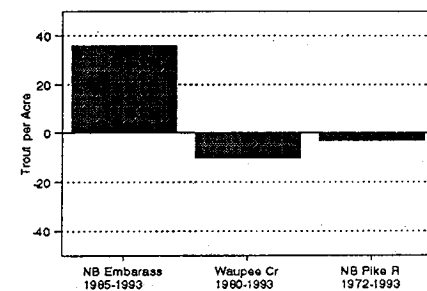


Figure 3. Change in the number of brown trout 7" or greater in Category 2 streams in the Marinette Area.

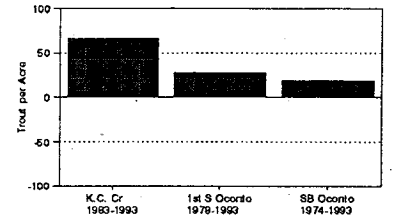


Figure 4. Change in the number of brook trout 8" or greater in Category 4 streams in the Marinette Area. Dates refer to the years sampled.

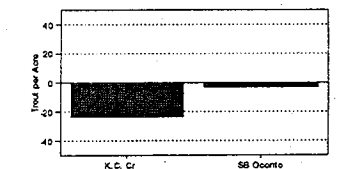


Figure 5. Change in the number of brown trout 12" or greater in Category 4 streams in the Marinette Area. Dates refer to years sampled.

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Enclosed is a Check in the Amount of _____
For _____ Tickets at \$25.00 Each

NAME _____

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